

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

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CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	301
Leading Articles:—	
Punishment of the Guilty in China	302
The Inland Waterways Question	302
The Southern Disturbances	303
The European Steam-roller	303
The Germans at Kiaochow	304
The Crisis: Telegrams	304
Hongkong Legislative Council	305
Supreme Court	307
The Crisis in China	307
Daring Piracy Case	308
The Regulations as to Back-yards	308
Hongkong Jockey Club	309
A Dishonest Coolie Brought to Book	310
Shanghai's Defence Scheme	310
A New Treaty Point in Japan	310
H.M.S. <i>Terrible</i> Runs Aground	310
The Trade of Singapore	310
Canton	311
Macao	311
Tientsin	311
Sandakan Notes	312
Canton Insurance Company, Limited	312
Jebeu Mining and Trading Company	313
The North China Insurance Company, Limited	313
Hongkong Volunteer Corps	314
Crickets	314
The Royal Hongkong Golf Club	314
Hongkong Rifle Association	314
Water Return	314
Consular Reports	314
Hongkong and Port News	315
Commercial	318
Shipping	319

BIRTHS.

On the 2nd October, at Foochow, the wife of the Rev. F. E. BLAND, of a daughter.

At the Cliff House, Nagasaki, on Thursday, the 4th October, the wife of DAVID W. BELL, of Tientsin, of a daughter.

At Singapore, on the 6th October, the wife of JAMES H. CARROLL, of a son.

On the 8th October, 1900, at Shanghai, the wife of RICHARD F. HAZELTON, of a son.

At No. 3, Seymour Road, Hongkong, on the 13th October, the wife of EDWARD JONES, of a son.

At No. 9, Queen's Gardens, Hongkong, on the 15th October, the wife of H. JESSEN, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

At Gaya Island, B. N. Borneo, on the 15th September, FREDERICK SAXBY, second son of the late James L. NEUBRONNER.

On the 29th September, 1900, at the Victoria Diamond Jubilee Hospital, Tientsin, ROBERT BEATTY DE COBERT, of the Imperial Maritime Customs Service, of typhoid fever.

On the 7th October, at the age of 70 years, SONG HOOT KIAM (for 42 years cashier of the P. & O. Co.).

At Shanghai General Hospital, on the 8th October, 1900, after a long and painful illness, CLARA LOUISE, aged 22 years, fifth daughter of the late John MESNY.

At Bay View, Kowloon, on the 14th October, MARION MEIKLE, the beloved wife of John I. PLUMMER, in her 55th year.

At No. 4, Mountain View, Peak, Hongkong, on the 17th October, at 12.45 p.m., DORENDA SARAH (DORA), the beloved wife of John William Jones, Acting Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court, aged 35 years.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German mail of the 17th September arrived per N. D. L. steamer *Bayera*, on the 17th October (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Count von Waldersee proceeded from Tientsin to Peking on the 16th inst.

Japan has signified her adhesion to the French Note, reserving, however, one point.

On the 14th instant a tornado occurred at Tsingtao, Shantung, in which sixteen buildings were damaged, one man killed and eight injured.

The exportation of arms and ammunition from the colony to Brunei is forbidden by the Straits Government for six months from the 5th inst.

One day last week the Protestant Cemetery near Macao Fort, Canton, was desecrated. In consequence some soldiers on watch at the Fort have been beheaded.

It is reported in a despatch from Phyang Yang that an English overseer of the Unnan mine was recently murdered, and that his murderer is still at large.

A statement comes from Paris that M. Doumer will return shortly to France, and that M. Mougeot will be appointed Governor-General of Indo-China in his place.

On the 14th inst. a scare occurred at Macao, and all the troops and volunteers turned out. The alarm arose out of some disturbances with coolies at the Barrier Gate.

The steam launch *Kong Hoi*, with a passenger boat in tow, was pirated at Dosing on the West River on the 9th inst., and the passengers robbed of valuables to the amount of Tls. 500.

A Paris telegram of the 7th inst. announces that M. Picanon started on that day for Saigon by the *Australien*. M. Picanon is going to resume his post as Lieutenant-Governor of Cochin-China.

General Chaffee and Mr. Conger, it is stated, have been instructed from Washington that Count von Waldersee's appointment does not include the command over the U. S. troops in China.

In order to prevent the spreading of the rinderpest to Tsingtao, where at present large quantities of cattle have been gathered from the hinterland, the German Government of Kiaochow has prohibited the import of oxen, sheep and goats at Tsingtao from Shanghai.

On Saturday last the section of the Allied punitive force which started under Gen. Voyron's command from Tientsin to Paotingfu reached the latter city. They found the place almost deserted, all the Government and private treasure having been removed to Honan to prevent it falling into the hands of the Allies.

An attempt was made on the life of the Empress Dowager by an alleged "Boxer," as the Imperial party was proceeding from Taiyuanfu to Hsianfu on the 4th inst. The assailant was immediately executed. A telegram received in Shanghai from Hankow on the 14th inst. announced that the Chinese Emperor has already arrived at Hsianfu.

A correspondent reports from Seoul to the *Asahi* that the proposal of Mr. Sands, the American Adviser to the Korean Imperial Household, to raise a loan in America for the Korean Government, has failed. Mr. Sands had proposed to raise 5 million yen, on the security of the mines in the thirteen provinces of the kingdom. The scheme met with the approval of almost all the State Ministers, but was at last rejected by the Throne, who, it is said, regards the proposal as a source of national danger in pledging the mines of the country.

According to a Berlin despatch the Powers' representatives at Peking have considered the German Note. They declare that the Imperial Edict omits two chief culprits, Tung Fuhsiang and Yu Hsien, and that the punishments are inadequate. The penalties must be carried out by delegates of the Legations.

The Kwangtung rebels, on the 10th instant probably, captured Waichow, defeating the Imperial troops and killing 60 of them. On the 12th, however, the Imperialists brought up reinforcements and recaptured the city, scattering the rebels. The latter are supposed to be under the orders of Kang Yu-wei and Sun Yat-sen. As far as can be gathered, up to date, they are not making much progress.

The steam-launch *Nau Chau*, belonging to Messrs. Sculfort and Co., Hongkong, and flying the French flag, which left Kwang-chauwan on the 12th for this port, was pirated on the 13th by some men who embarked disguised as carpenters. Much booty fell into the pirates' hands. The *Nau Chau*, after the robbers had left her, came on to Hongkong. A full description of the occurrence will be found on another page.

As already announced in these columns the Welsh Fusiliers and the Hongkong Regiment will return here for the winter, but the exact disposition of the Indian Expeditionary Force now scattered between Hongkong, Weihaiwei, Taku and Peking, cannot be settled until it is known whether the Allies are to remain in strength at Peking. This is for the powers to decide after receiving Count Waldersee's report on the military position.

Rumour has it, says the *Straits Times*, that some native regiments will soon be raised in India for service in the Colonies, to take the place of European troops, and that Singapore and Mauritius are to be the first to have the new regiments. The Home authorities expressed the desire that India should raise these battalions for local service only, and a difference of opinion on this point with the Government of India delays the issue of orders regarding the new regiments.

The Tokyo correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—According to telegrams to the Press here, it is rumoured in Vienna that the Mikado will visit Europe next spring. The rumour is said to have no foundation in fact, which is a pity, for the wonderful reign of the present Emperor of Japan could not be more fittingly crowned than by a personal visit to the men whom he will now acknowledge as fellow monarchs, but whom he would at one time scorn as barbarians, unworthy to address the Son of Heaven.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says that telegrams received by the Shanghai local mandarins from Canton on Friday report that the authority of the mandarins at present is limited by the city walls, or within the radius of a regiment's encampment. All the rest is under the insurgents' rule. The leaders of the movement, it is reported, are drawing up proclamations calling upon their followers (1) to protect foreigners and their property, as they are really friends of the people, in consequence of which the Mandarins have always hated foreigners and encouraged ruffians and robbers to persecute and slay them; (2) to slay all Manchus, wherever found, and their parasites; and (3) to abstain from pillaging villages and cities and those who bear no arms on their persons.

PUNISHMENT OF THE GUILTY IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 17th October.)

Despite Mr. CONGER's fears that the Allied expedition to Paotingfu will inflame Northern China generally, the fact that this punitive force has reached its goal will be hailed with general satisfaction. If the Government of the United States is satisfied to allow its citizens to be plundered, tortured, outraged, and murdered by Chinese officials, soldiers, or mobs, that is no reason why other civilised Governments fortunately less amenable to mob rule should acquiesce in such shameful crimes. The Chinese Government is responsible for the blood of scores of innocent men, women, and children, slain, under circumstances of horrible brutality, in cold blood, in various provinces, and in many cases by order of the officials, and even by one official's own hand. To the excesses committed in Manchuria, Shansi, and Shensi, the barbarous massacre at Paotingfu must be added. Concerning this atrocity, Dr. MORRISON, the Peking correspondent of the *Times*, wrote under date 31st August:—"To-day the foreign community has been thrilled with horror at the news, tardily reaching us, of a massacre of missionaries, men, women and children, in Paotingfu, the capital city of this province, while under the protection of Imperial troops. Children were butchered before their parents' eyes, white women were ravished and carried into captivity, mothers and fathers were tortured and murdered." Dr. MORRISON goes on to add in indignant comment:—"Massacres by Red Indians never call in vain for vengeance, but, though Paotingfu is only eighty miles from Peking, the troops remain here inactive, their one thought and wish to be given work or be recalled from Peking. Surely the civilised world will not suffer this cruel massacre to remain unavenged and raise no hand to ascertain the fate of the poor martyred Christians and white women." This appeal, happily, has not been made in vain; the Powers have not been so blinded by fears of consequences (presumably in the direction of temporary obstruction to trade) as Minister CONGER would appear to be. The commercial idea has not so petrified the minds and consciences of the nations that they are ready to condone murder and outrage for the sake of a little trade—some paltry gain. Perish the thought! Let us have justice first, whatever may be the loss to trade.

It is alleged that Paotingfu is still the headquarters of the Boxers, and that was certainly another good reason for attacking the city. It is to be hoped that the expedition will succeed in capturing some of the officials responsible for the massacre as well as inflict condign punishment on the city itself, the inhabitants of which have given such strenuous support to the anti-foreign crusade and revelled in the blood of foreigners and native Christians. For our part we do not share in the tremblings of Mr. CONGER as to the consequences of the fitting punishment of Paotingfu. It will not inflame the Chinese people generally if they hear that Paotingfu has been razed to the ground, though this fate is not, we think, likely to overtake it. If the place be sacked, the news may perhaps make some impression upon the people of Chihli. It may for the moment inspire some rage of a futile character, but it is more likely to prove a salutary lesson to the populace to abstain in future from the murder and outrage of foreigners, from the certainty that such crimes will bring

a day of dreadful reckoning. The reason for the frequent repetition of such outrages in China has unquestionably been the immunity that has for many years followed so far as the instigators were concerned. It has mattered nothing to the officials and *litterati* if an indemnity has, on occasions, been required, and the punishment of the instruments of the deed demanded. It was an easy matter to raise a few thousand dollars, and there were always coolies obtainable to bear the punishment due for that or other enormities for which the vicarious sufferer had been probably well paid. But it will be a new experience to have the guilt brought home to the real criminals; and one such example, in high places, will go farther than the decapitation of a thousand coolies who had taken part in some inhuman massacre of foreigners.

That the Powers will not stop short by a hair of the demand for the surrender to justice of the bloodthirsty ruffians who were mainly instrumental in promoting the massacres and bloodshed we ardently hope, and no sophistry, no idea of self-interest, no misplaced tenderness for rank, no weakness for the poor ignorant heathen, should for a moment divert attention from this first and paramount claim. While PRINCE TUAN, CHAO SHU-CHIAO, KANG-YI, YU HSIEN, and TUNG FU-HSIANG are suffered to walk the earth, the blood of the innocents will go unavenged, and justice be mocked. No terms should be listened to, no negotiations opened, until these men have been given up. No recognition should be accorded to any Chinese Administration until these men have been brought to book. Let China be taught once and for all that the primary condition in any settlement for wrongs done by her Government or people is the punishment of the perpetrators of that wrong, not compensation for the injury suffered. It has heretofore been too much the policy of Western Powers to accept compensation of a pecuniary or territorial nature for injuries received by their subjects, and this has been a grave mistake all through, for it has led the Chinese officials to believe that however gross the outrage, however cruel the wrong, it could always be paid for, and the instigator could escape the consequences of his act. This is another delusion that should be shattered, and in its place a crushing example of punishment surely following crime, no matter how exalted the official, should be set up as a warning for the future. For this reason we sincerely trust that if the Empress Dowager is allowed to retain her liberty she will at least be stripped of all power and relegated to the obscurity from which she sprang. No terms ought to be made with any Government in which she has a voice, and no share in public affairs should at any time hereafter be permitted to this woman, whose pernicious counsels have plunged the country into disasters and been the cause of so much misery. She has wisely (for her own safety) sought safety in flight, and the Foreign Ministers should refuse to deal with any Chinese officials holding her commission. As the first preliminary to negotiations they should ask that His Majesty the Emperor KWANG HSU should be reinstated in power and be accessible to the Plenipotentiaries. With this point gained, and some independent notables nominated by the Emperor as a Peace Commission, one great step towards a restoration of peace and a rehabilitation of the Empire would be gained. The punishment of the instigators of the murders and massacres would follow, and be succeeded by such restitution of lost property, &c., as would speedily result in the Chinese recognising that, after all, the expulsion of

the hated foreigner was not so simple a matter as was generally supposed.

THE INLAND WATERWAYS QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 15th October.)

In our leading article of the 5th inst. we made a brief reference to some of the statements made by Mr. Consul SCOTT in his Trade Report for Canton; extracts from which are quoted at length in another column. We now purpose dealing with these statements at greater length. Mr. SCOTT says that, in spite of many assertions to the contrary, the Inland Waters Navigation from Canton in the only direction it seems probable it could be expected to do so has proved a very considerable success; he, however, quite omits to inform us what the many assertions to the contrary were and on what they were based. We will endeavour to supply the omission. The public at home and in China understood the opening of the Inland Waters of China to mean what it said, namely, that anyone, Chinese or foreigner, who wanted to run a steamer from any one place to any other in China could do so. This view, which was the only one possible in face of the published agreement and of the repeated assertions made by responsible officials and statesmen, was accepted by the bulk of the Consular Service and also, to some extent, by the I.M. Customs. When, however, Sir ROBERT HART imposed an entirely different reading of the agreement, and excluded the great bulk of the waters of China and steamers using them from coming under the concession, it was felt, and rightly so, that a fraud had been perpetrated on the public at large; and it called forth emphatic protests from some of our Consular officials, notably Messrs. MANSFIELD, HOSIE, and FOX, who voiced public opinion in saying that the concession thus shorn would be of no practical value whatever. It is the omission to state this elementary fact that is so misleading a feature in Mr. SCOTT's report; but it is not the only manner in which a misconception of the facts of the case is conveyed. The question of the carriage of goods by steam is placed in an equally false light. Mr. SCOTT's argument is that the great bulk of commodities are carried between inland places and Canton in ordinary native junks propelled by oars or sail; that these junks and steam-launches (or boats towed by them) would and do all come under the same *lekin* administration; therefore it follows that, if the goods are not carried in the launches or in boats towed by them, the reason must be looked for somewhere else than in the intricacies of the *lekin* system of taxation. Now the justness of this argument depends entirely on what interpretation Mr. SCOTT gives to "Inland Waters." As we have already explained he omits to mention the manner in which these have been curtailed. As a matter of fact he takes a small radius round Canton as the range over which his observations apply; and over that range we quite admit they apply with justice. But extend that radius ever so little and Mr. SCOTT's arguments at once fall to the ground. On the contrary, say the shipping companies of this Colony, there are very large quantities of cargo coming in and out of Canton in native boats towed by steam, to and from places hundreds of miles away, and one of the chief reasons, so they argue, why it is towed in native boats instead of being placed on board the steamer is owing to the intricacies of taxation—*lekin* or otherwise. That there are enormous quantities of goods of all sorts being towed

in boats in and out of Canton, the ordinary observer can see for himself. When Mr. Scott wishes to prove that little or no good is or can be expected to be carried by steam transport under the Inland Water concession he draws a narrow circle round Canton and excludes all goods which pass the circumference, going either way. When, on the other hand, he wishes to show that the concession is a success, and in proof of it holds up the large increase in the number of steamers registered under it, he at once enlarges his circle to an indefinite extent and includes in his total *all* launches, no matter how distant from Canton their line of operations may extend. In many cases these very launches which he *includes* tow the boats carrying the goods which he *excludes*! This is ingenious but hardly ingenious reasoning on Mr. Scott's part. Mr. Scott also forgets to point out that included in his totals of "inland" steamers is that class of Chinese vessel which is neither "inland" or "interport" and yet which, as the shipping companies have pointed out, secures the advantages of both. Neither does he inform the public that a good number of steamers included by him are, when under the Chinese flag, furnished with dual sets of papers by the Customs, so that one day they are "inland water boats" and the next "interport boats." We may remark in passing that Canton is not the only port where statistics can be made to prove anything. For years past the China Merchants' Company have run a steamer from Chefoo up the Gulf of Pechili. With the opening of inland waters this steamer is classed under that heading and statistics of the cargo carried in her are now published. These statistics are held up to us as a proof of the successful working of the Inland Water concession. The Chefoo Consul might with equal justice say, as Mr. Scott does, "These are facts; there can be no question of juggling with statistics; the trade has been recorded, the revenue has been collected."

To the ordinary reader not familiar with details the question will of course present itself why the Customs, whose record for fair dealing is so well established, should countenance a condition of things so opposed to their traditions. The reason is to be found in Sir ROBERT HART's decision to keep separate the inland and interport trade and steamers. With the opening of inland waters to foreign steamers the Customs at Canton found themselves in the position of being forced to uphold the I. G.'s decision and at the same time to reconcile it to a state of things which had existed for years previous to the opening. In practice they found this impossible and so they not unnaturally decided that if differential treatment there must be it should fall on the foreign steamer; and that the onus for remedying this state of things primarily rests with the British authorities who initiated the concession. Of course everyone admits that the separation of "inland" and "interport" boats was a matter over which Mr. Scott had no control, and that in recognising it he was simply carrying out the instructions of the Minister, but it is quite apparent that there are matters to which he might have devoted his attention with more profitable results than in endeavouring to persuade the mercantile community of China that they do not understand their business—for that is practically what his report amounts to. The Supplementary Rules for Inland Waters, which the Minister informed Lord SALISBURY were merely subordinate to and explanatory of the original Agreement, provide that a list of the *lekin* barriers and the rules in

force at them shall be published through the Customs; that an official should be appointed who would have an office in the vicinity of the Custom House and who would collect in a lump sum the duties a vessel loading for a certain destination is bound to pay at the various stations she will pass on the way. These rules were to be published before the end of the Chinese Year (1898). In April 1899 Mr. MANSFIELD reported to the Legation: "I have been informed by the Commissioner of Customs (at Canton) that these Rules and Regulations, with a list of the *lekin* stations, *lekin* tariff, list of articles subject to *tsoli* and rates charged, and list of articles subject to *ching fei* (battery tax) and rate charged, have already been drafted and will shortly be published. A Provincial Officer has also been nominated who will have a floating office on the Honam side opposite to the Custom House." Mr. G. JAMIESON when called upon by Lord SALISBURY for his opinion on the Hongkong Shipping Companies' petition remarked that the publication of these Rules, which they there asked for, should be insisted on at once, but he added that from Mr. MANSFIELD's remarks it was apparently under way.

We draw Mr. Scott's attention to these very explicit statements, which the general public understood to mean that it would be open to any British subject who wished to run a steamer under the Inland Water concession to go to Canton, inform his Consul of the fact; and the Consul would be in a position to give him a copy of the rules in force at the barriers and a definite statement of the exact amount of taxation which shippers by his vessel could be called upon to pay. This, we contend, was what the public looked for, and it was a result they were justly entitled to look for from the wording of the Regulations and the statements made by Mr. Scott's predecessor in office. It would have been interesting if Mr. Scott had informed us why he has failed to get this carried out.

THE SOUTHERN DISTURBANCES.

(Daily Press, 16th October.)

The condition of affairs in the vicinity of this colony, on land and on sea, has during the current month shown a tendency toward disturbances which has caused a certain amount of alarm, needlessly heightened by such rumours as the soil of European settlements appears always so fruitful in. It is not, however, to be denied that there is a general sense of unrest, and the passion by which so many people are possessed of putting 2 and 2 together and making 5 has led to many isolated troubles being classed together as parts of a general upset of the peace of Southern China. Of the recent fighting to the north of the New Territory, where the "rebel" or brigands, whichever they should be called, were at one time comparatively close to the British border, it is difficult to say much, for the reason that trustworthy news is scanty and conflicting rumours are many. From Canton sources of information it appears probable that the men who have come into conflict with the Chinese regular troops profess to be followers of KWANG YU-WEI, our protégé at Singapore, and of SUN YAT-SEN, whose rescue from the agents of the Chinese Government created so great a sensation in London some time ago. But it cannot be said for certain whether they are genuine "Reformers" or men of the type of those who fell into CHANG CHI-TUNG's hands at Hankow and whose dealings with the *Kolao Hui* made them justly

suspected, it would appear, of more questionable intentions than the reform of China. These particular law-breakers of Kwangtung, however, do not appear to be animated by anti-foreign feeling, as far as can be discovered, and there would in that case be no connection between them and the wreckers of chapels and persecutors of converts at Kumchuk and its neighbourhood. The despatch of British troops yesterday morning to the New Territory was a measure of precaution which should remove all cause for apprehension.

The sudden panic at Macao on Sunday night arose out of an affair which seems to have been purely local, and though naturally the townspeople were upset at the rapid turn-out of the entire military strength of the place, it appears from our correspondents' letters that the affair was rather trivial. In fact our regular correspondent queries whether it is possible that the alarm was intended to test the defence of the colony. We can hardly credit this; such a mischievous scheme could not enter the head of any sensible man. When the air is full of exaggerated stories as it is at present, even an accidental discharge of a gun will easily upset the general equanimity. A similar occurrence might well have taken place, say, at Shameen when the panic was at its height. Fortunately nothing of the kind happened, for which we have every cause to be thankful. As was the case here at the Feast of Lanterns, adequate precautions, quietly taken, and avoidance of ridiculous alarm on the part of the residents are the best means of meeting mischievous rumours put into circulation by irresponsible persons, and of showing how little foundation there is for the imaginative tales which get into currency.

THE EUROPEAN STEAM-ROLLER.

(Daily Press, 18th October.)

The expression invented by the *Times* for the force under the control of the Generalissimo of the allied troops, "the European steam-roller," is a distinctly happy name in one respect at least. The expedition to Paotingfu has been conducted with all the slow dignity of a steam-roller—though the actual march from Tientsin and Peking to the city was fairly rapid, owing to lack of opposition from the Chinese. But among the peculiar properties of a steam-roller, other than its slow pace, the most notable is its crushing effect. Will "the European steam-roller" perform its work in the same thorough way? The move on Paotingfu has failed for the most part to attain its object, owing to the discussion and delays which preceded the departure of the expeditions. When the allied troops arrived there they discovered the city practically deserted and all the treasure, both Government and private property, safely removed beyond the possibility of capture. The Allies have left to them the bare satisfaction of removing Paotingfu, as far as its mere buildings are concerned, from the face of the earth, but the punishment has been shorn of its impressive character. There is an atrocious crime to be avenged, and the destruction of a few empty houses will not weigh much in the balance against it. But presumably the question which our Tientsin correspondent asks—Will Paotingfu be burnt to the ground?—will be answered in the affirmative.

It is difficult to see what will be the course of events in the immediate future. The German Government, as the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* cable from Berlin on the 11th inst. stated, replied to the Yangtze Viceroy's anxious protests against the extension of operations into Shantung that the question had not

been taken into consideration. Now, however, we hear of the retreat of twelve thousand defeated Boxers from Chihli into Shantung, and in these circumstances it is hardly possible that an extension of operations can be avoided, unless YUAN SHIKAI is strong enough to deal with the rebels himself. But except in event of sheer necessity it is to be hoped that it will be possible to fall in with the wishes of the loyal Viceroys, for an estrangement of them would have a disastrously encouraging effect on the reactionary party at the Imperial Court, which already seems to have recovered some of its strength. Late Shanghai papers report that supplies are flowing from the Yangtze region to the Court at its new headquarters at Hsianfu, and until this is stopped the task of starving the Chinese Government into a reasonable attitude is beyond the power of the Allies. But the latter are in a position to demand that the Yangtze Viceroys and YUAN SHIKAI shall adhere to their declaration that they cannot send food and money to Hsianfu. As long as the Court continues to be influenced in any degree by Prince TUAN it must be considered hostile and usurping, and therefore not to be assisted by those of the Chinese who are doing their best to quell the Boxers. The agreement between the Powers and the Yangtze officials requires this. The latter months ago recognised that the edicts issued in the Emperor's name were not genuine edicts; but they seem still to pay an exaggerated regard to the Imperial seal, which it seems more than probable is even now being manipulated by Prince TUAN and is perhaps in his sole possession, as indeed one of the reports from the north states. A continuance of this condition of affairs will nullify the past good work of the Viceroys and Governors who have their country's best interests at heart. Thus while the Powers are slowly and reservedly approaching the discovery of a common basis for negotiations with China, the danger is growing greater that the so-called Government of that Empire will find means of holding out against the Allies' demands and continuing the policy of procrastination which has served them so well up to now. But if the supplies from the Yangtze and coast provinces are cut off, a term is put at once to this typical Chinese policy, and negotiations can begin in earnest.

THE GERMANS AT KIAOCHOW.

(Daily Press, 19th October.)

Among the Trade Reports issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs there is an extremely instructive article on the trade of Kiaochow for 1899, written by Mr. E. OHLMEYER, Commissioner of Customs at Tsingtao, which shows well the good work done by Germany in her new acquisition in Shantung. The head office of the Kiaochow Custom House, it will be remembered, was established at Tsingtao, the chief port in the German territory, by desire of the German Government last year. Of this port Mr. OHLMEYER says:—"Tsingtao, formerly a poor fishing village, of no use for the commerce of the bay, owing to its greater distance by land and by water from the principal inland marts than the other inter-bay junk ports, is rapidly being transformed into a beautiful modern city, which gives promise of soon rivaling in many respects the finest cities in the East. An extensive system of drainage and fine wide streets are being blasted out of the solid rock; electric lighting, telephone, water-works, afforestation, are all being rapidly pushed forward; commodious houses, fine

hotels, offices, and workshops are springing up in every direction. The former Chinese inhabitants have been bought out and moved to a neatly constructed model town, with wide streets and proper drainage, in the neighbourhood of the inner northern harbour. Thus, with the Chinese population living apart under healthy conditions, and everything possible being done for sanitation generally, with a magnificent climate to boot, and with fine sea-bathing and a lofty mountain range suitable for summer retreats in close proximity, Tsingtao bids fair to rival all other ports in the East as a health resort."

As a commercial port, too, Mr. OHLMEYER sees great promise for Tsingtao. Hitherto it has suffered from unprotected anchorages and lack of wharf accommodation, but these disadvantages will soon be things of the past. Two new harbours, with ample wharves, are being constructed, and the smaller is expected to be ready at the end of the present year. The railway now building will have its terminus at Tsingtao and will run to the rich north-western part of Shantung province, from which the British at Weihaiwei are debarred. "The railway and new harbour," says Mr. OHLMEYER, "should doubtless enable produce of the neighbourhood to be placed on board ship at Tsingtao cheaper than it can now be put on board junks at the inter-bay ports; and the creation of a better and quicker market should, by enhancing supply and demand, likewise tend to increase the prosperity and, with it, the buying power of the neighbouring regions." The report goes on to state that if anywhere in China the railway will work wonders in Shantung, and that its inauguration will be followed by an unlooked for development of trade and local prosperity. The spirit of opposition to the railway, due at first to ignorance, is now on the wane. The country people, Mr. OHLMEYER says, are beginning to realise that but for wages earned on the railway and other public works, they would have starved last winter. "Confidence in the fairness of the railway and other authorities, once established, there should be less opposition to railway projects here than there was at the beginning in Europe."

Mr. OHLMEYER's report is one which can be read with profit by all interested in trade with China. The sketch which he incidentally furnishes of German methods at Kiaochow is instructive and presents many points which we in Hongkong may well consider. To mention nothing else, the treatment of the housing of the natives question is one in which the German colony is a long way ahead of us. And yet it is mere carelessness which has allowed Hongkong and Kowloon to drift into their present condition. There is an Ordinance and there was land capable of reservation, but the former has not been enforced, and the land has been disposed of in a reckless manner. Our Government has neglected a most obvious duty, and yet scarcely anyone has troubled to protest.

The statement has obtained considerable publicity that Dr. G. E. Morrison, the Times correspondent, was forcibly ejected by the Russians from the house in Peking which he had assumed since the siege. In the N.-C. Daily News of Saturday last appears a letter from Dr. Morrison, denying the story entirely. "I moved of my own wish," he says, "from the Russian section of Peking to the British section in the Imperial City for the simple reason that I wish to be nearer the British Legation and British headquarters." He states that personally he has been treated by the Russian authorities with the utmost courtesy and consideration; and that he still retained (on the 23rd ult.) the house in the Russian quarter which was occupied by his servants.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS]

SHANGHAI, 12th October, 8.30 p.m.

An Imperial Decree dated 4th October, announces that an attempt was made to assassinate the Empress Dowager as she was proceeding to Hsianfu. The would-be assassin was immediately executed.

Troops have started for Paotingfu from Tientsin and Peking. General Voyron commanding the former division, and General Sir A. Gaselee the latter.

Only three Powers are seriously interested in the China question, England, Germany, and Russia. Of these, Russia has her hands full in Manchuria; England has no policy, thus leaving Germany free to play a private game.

SHANGHAI, 14th October, 8.50 p.m.

A telegram from Hankow announces that the Emperor has arrived at Hsianfu. This is hardly possible.

SHANGHAI, 15th October, 9.40 p.m.

Nine missing Scandinavian missionaries, belonging to Ningsha, Kansu, have passed Hsianfu safely and are proceeding to Hankow.

The French, under Gen. Voyron, occupied Paotingfu on Saturday without fighting.

An eyewitness of the massacre of missionaries at Tsiyuanfu reports that Governor Yu Hsien personally killed five foreigners.

Pirates boarded a Chinese lorch on Friday off Gutzlaff and captured the captain and supercargo, holding them to ransom for six thousand dollars.

SHANGHAI, 16th October, 8 p.m.

Count von Waldersee is proceeding to Peking.

Twelve thousand Boxers are returning to Shantung, having been utterly defeated near Tsangchau, in Chihli, by Mei, General under the command of Yuan Shikai.

Kang-yi is reported seriously ill. Yung Lu has been ordered to join the Empress Dowager.

Paotingfu is almost deserted. All the Government and private treasures have been sent to Honan, owing to the long notice given before the start of the punitive expedition.

SHANGHAI, 17th October, 8.5 p.m.

Tao Mu has declined the Liangkwan Viceroyalty, alleging as reasons his age and infirmity.

The Chinese report a suspicion that the heir apparent, Pu Chun, is dead, explaining the unexpected suicide of the two tutors, Hau Tung and Duke Chung-yi.

It is reported that Li Hung-chang has been degraded on account of the surrender of Paotingfu.

It is reported from Capetown that the alarm at the prospect of the introduction of Chinese cheap labour into Cape Colony and Rhodesia, a scheme which it is understood is favoured by Mr. Rhodes, is spreading among all classes of colonists. The mercantile community have already protested in the strongest manner, and on 18th September the Capetown Corporation decided to send a deputation to Sir Alfred Milner to offer an equally emphatic protest. Kimberley is quite hostile to the project, which is regarded as likely to be altogether injurious to the welfare of British artists and workmen who may settle in the country after the war. Besides introducing the immorality and uncleanliness of the lowest classes of Chinese, there will certainly be vehement opposition to their importation into South Africa, and no prospect short of forcible resistance.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On the 15th inst. a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present—

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (Sir HENRY BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).

His EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G. (Commanding the troops).

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN, Q.C. (Attorney-General).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. BASIL TAYLOR (Acting Harbour Master).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. JOHN THURBURN.

Hon. R. M. GRAY.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR announced that he had appointed the following committees:—

Law Committee.—The Attorney-General, the Hon. J. J. Keswick, the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, the Hon. Wei A Yuk and the Hon. R. M. Gray.

Public Works Committee.—The Director of Public Works, the Colonial Treasurer, the Hon. C. P. Chater, the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, and the Hon. J. Thurnburn.

Finance Committee.—All the members of the Legislative Council, with the Colonial Secretary as Chairman.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes No. 54 and 55 and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded and the motion was carried.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee and moved its adoption.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded and the motion was carried.

DAIRY BYE-LAWS.

On the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS, Dairy Bye-laws made by the Sanitary Board under section 13 of Ordinance No. 24 of 1887 were approved.

THE RESUMPTION OF CROWN LANDS.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to facilitate the resumption by the Governor of Crown Lands required for a public purpose" was read a first time.

THE ESTIMATES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY proposed the second reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding \$3,380,134.29 to the Public Service of the year 1901." He said—If the second reading passes the Council, sir, I intend to move that the Bill be referred in the usual way to the Finance Committee for consideration.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded and the motion was carried.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—This Bill having passed the second reading, I beg to move that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded and the motion was carried.

THE POST OFFICE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the second reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the Post Office." He said—If honourable members will look at the 41st section of this Bill they will see that it repeals five Ordinances. The law remains, with the exception of one point which I will mention directly, precisely the same as before, only instead of having five Ordinances we shall be able to find the law relating to the Post Office in one single Ordinance. The exception occurs in section 6. The only words

which are new appear in sub-section 2 of section 6, three lines from the end—"shall be conveyed in the colony otherwise than by the post." I should like to point out that the remainder of the section—"or shall be delivered in, or transmitted from the colony otherwise than by or through the General Post Office"—is no new law at all. It is the law which is enforced at the present time. Practically, therefore, this will make substantially no alteration in the law, because no one will wish to convey a letter if he cannot deliver it, and he cannot deliver it at the present time. There seems to be an impression that people will be prevented thereby from sending "chits" to be delivered from house to house or from an office to an office. I need hardly say that nothing is further from my intention. Any prohibition more ridiculous than that could scarcely be imagined. That will not be the effect. If honourable members will read the section they will see that certain correspondence is exempted by law. Now the question is, What is the correspondence exempted by the law? The answer is in section 7:—"All correspondence which, by any Act of the Imperial Parliament, is exempt from the exclusive privileges of the Imperial Post Office, shall within this Colony be exempted from the exclusive privilege of the Postmaster General of the Colony." I have taken the trouble to make an extract from the Imperial Act to prevent any misapprehension, and according to the Imperial Act among the letters which are exempt are letters sent by messenger as to the private affairs of the sender or receiver. Therefore the slight amendment made in the existing law by this Ordinance will have no effect whatever on chits or any legitimate transaction in the colony. The only reason for the slight amendment is that sometimes the police have been able to find a Chinaman with a large bundle of letters in his hand from different people which he was just going to deliver, but when brought before the Magistrate he will say, "I never delivered them and you cannot prove that I delivered them." The truth is that he is conveying them for the purpose of delivering them. Therefore I have made this slight alteration in order that we may enforce the spirit of the law as it is at the present time. I may say that these words which I have inserted are in the Imperial Post Office Act which was passed in the first year of Her Majesty's reign. They have never been altered up to the present time, and seeing that they have undergone a 63 years' test in England I consider that they are quite good enough for Hongkong.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

The Council then went into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

No alterations were made, and on the Council resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST PIRACY AND ROBBERY.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the second reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to provide more effectual means to ensure the observance, by those in charge of certain steam launches, of reasonable precautions against piracy and robbery." He said—The need of some legislation on this subject is emphasized by the fact that only in our morning local newspaper of to-day we find two more instances of steam launches being pirated, one the *Kong Hoi*, which was pirated on the 9th instant, the other the *Nau Chau*, which was pirated on by pretended passengers on the 13th, only last Saturday. But the necessity of such legislation was demonstrated some months ago in two other cases. In the first of these the master said he considered it the duty of the police to search passengers for arms before starting. It was not his business. When the police had searched the passengers he calmly stopped a quarter of a mile after starting to pick up other passengers, four or six, from a sampan. These passengers, who were pirates with concealed arms, pirated the launch and robbed all the *bona fide* passengers. In the second case the launch running, I think, to Yau-mat was pirated by passengers and taken to Canton River, where three or four junks were pirated by this steam launch. I cannot but think that some of the crew connived at all this. The people at the Yau-mat and ought to have immediately notified

the police of the non-arrival of the launch, or ferry launch as she might be called. This was not done, but when the police heard of the crime they watched and boarded the launch when she returned to Hongkong. On board were found cases of Florida water or some valuables, which seemed to have been given to the crew as cunshaws by the pirates. The crew were charged with receiving stolen property, but as, upon the evidence, it was clear that the property, no doubt part of the proceeds of the piracies, had been stolen outside the jurisdiction of this Colony, the Magistrate had no power to convict as the law then stood. That law is being altered by another Ordinance which is down for second reading to-day. But the present Ordinance is brought forward as an honest attempt to awaken owners, masters and crew to a sense of their responsibility for the safety of their *bona fide* passengers.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Bill was considered by the Council in Committee. No alterations were made, and on the Council resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the second reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Law with respect to the Jurisdiction exercisable in cases relating to the Receipt or Possession of Stolen Property." He said—This law is simply a transcript of the English law on the subject. A Bill was passed in August, 1896, in England, dealing with this matter, and this is a transcript. If it is a useful law for England I think honourable members will admit that it will be a useful one for this colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

The Bill was considered by the Council in Committee, and no alterations were made. Therefore, on the Council resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE NEW TERRITORIES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the second reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to extend the operation of such of the Laws of this Colony as are not at present in force in the New Territories to a certain portion of such New Territories." He said—This Bill is intended to extend the laws at present in force in Hongkong and Kowloon to a particular portion of what may be conveniently called the New Territories. If honourable members had before them a map of the New Territories they would find that portion which drains in a southerly direction from the Kowloon mountain range has not been made into a district. The rest of the New Territory itself has been divided into districts. Committees and so on have been appointed, but a portion of land south of the Kowloon range has not been included, and at present it is a sort of no man's land. It forms a part of the New Territory, it is true, but it is not included in one of the districts, and there is no reason whatever why the country north of the present British Kowloon and south of the Kowloon range should not all be assimilated to British Kowloon for the purposes of legislation. Unless this is done no building laws and no sanitary laws found very useful elsewhere can be enforced. "The objects and reasons" attached to the foot of the Bill explain the Bill as shortly as I can do so. They say:—

That portion of the New Territories, between Laichikok and Lyeemoon Pass, which drains in a southerly direction from the Kowloon Mountain Range, is so closely connected with what used to be known as British Kowloon, that it is desirable that the laws in force in the latter should apply equally to the former district. It may, at first sight, appear that it will be difficult to enforce compliance at once with all the requirements of some of the Ordinances which were declared by Ordinance No. 10 of 1899 not to apply to the New Territories. All that is really required, however, is consideration and tact in the administration of such laws, and the alternative would appear to be either to leave the district in question with no Sanitary, Building, or Licensing laws, or else to pass new Ordinances applying only to that district. The latter course would be to make the law applicable to the colony generally, and a third set

applicable to the rest of such New Territories. It is difficult to see why laws applicable to the southern half of a village like Sam Shui Po, for instance, should not be equally capable of application to its northern half. Section 4 is intended to meet cases, such as sections 13, 54, 55, and 57 of Ordinance No. 24 of 1887, where such expressions as "the villages and rural districts of Hongkong and Kowloon" are used.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

The Bill was considered by the Council in committee. Several alterations were made, and consequently the third reading was not moved on the Council resuming.

THE RAW OPIUM ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend the Raw Opium Ordinance, 1887. He said—This is a short Ordinance, and if I refer you to the "objects and reasons" at the foot of the Bill you will find there all the explanation necessary. They are as follow:—"The amendments of the Law relating to opium effected by this Ordinance are made with the view of assisting the Chinese Government in the collection of revenue from the import of raw opium and of rendering smuggling more difficult. The second section requires the Superintendent of Imports and Exports to furnish the master of every vessel carrying opium for export with a memorandum containing certain particulars as to such opium, and it requires him to forward a duplicate of such memorandum for the information of the proper Commissioner of Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs. It also forbids the departure of any vessel carrying opium, without such memorandum, subject to the provisions of section twelve of the principal Ordinance. The third section provides that, in cases within that section twelve, that is where steamers are allowed to depart before application for a permit can be made, the Superintendent should telegraph to the Commissioner of Customs the requisite particulars, sending on the memorandum as soon as practicable. The fourth section provides a penalty for any infringement, by the master of a vessel, of the requirements of the second section. This system should keep the Customs Commissioners well informed of all opium exported from this colony to China." We do not wish this colony to have the reputation of being a colony where the smuggling of opium is fostered. It is our bounden duty to do what we can to act in a straightforward manner and to prevent smuggling. This Bill is the outcome of a great deal of thought and correspondence, and it does not seem to me to impose any hardship upon anybody. It meets with the approval of the Commissioner of Customs, and I hope that it will meet with the approval of the Council.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

The Bill was considered by the Council in committee. No alterations were made, and on the Council resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE PENSION FUND ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Widows and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, 1900. The "objects and reasons" say:—"Sections 2 and 3 of this Ordinance effect two amendments in the principal Ordinance which are deemed desirable by the Secretary of State, and this opportunity has been taken to correct a slight error in a reference in the schedule."

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Bill was considered by the Council in committee. No alterations were made, and on the Council resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council then adjourned until Monday week.

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTIMATES.
A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

The CHAIRMAN said—Before we proceed to consider the Appropriation Bill there are two minutes which I wish to bring before the committee. The first is one in which His Excellency the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$944.04 to cover the cost of establishing telephone communication with the Police Station at Santin. This Police Station is in the New Territory, and I am sure all members of this Council will recognise the importance of having all the Police Stations in telephonic communication with the Central Station. I am sure this vote is one which will commend itself to your favourable consideration.

The vote was passed.

The CHAIRMAN—The next minute is one in which His Excellency the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Three hundred and Eighty-one Dollars and Seventy-five Cents (\$381.75) to defray the cost of various articles required for the Government steam lighthouse tender *Stanley*. Honourable members will remember that the *Stanley* is a new boat which has just been completed for light house work and work in connection with the New Territory. This vote is to cover the expense of crockery and various other articles required to complete the outfit.

The vote was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—We now come to the consideration of the Appropriation Bill, and in accordance with the precedent of former years I will take each item as it appears in the Bill, and if any honourable member has any suggestion or question in regard to any of the items I shall be glad if he will mention it.

The CLERK of COUNCILS then proceeded to read the different items. On his reading the item "Public Works Department, \$123,306."

The CHAIRMAN said—At the last meeting of the Council the senior unofficial member raised the question as to whether the staff of the department would be adequate to discharge all the different works contained in the estimates for 1901. On that occasion I promised that the matter should be enquired into, and that at the next meeting of the Council information would be given on the point. Would the Director of Public Works kindly give the information required?

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS—I consider that the present staff when strengthened by a civil engineer whom we are expecting shortly from home for Tytam will be sufficient to carry out the different works mentioned in the "Public Works Extraordinary," provided three persons now on leave—Mr. Chatham, Mr. Crook, and Mr. Drury—are here, and of course we count upon having their services. In regard to the Estimates I may say that the Public Works Extraordinary seem formidable in comparison with those of former years, being nearly double, but on looking into the items it will be seen that the larger portion of the expenditure is on buildings. In regard to the new Law Courts, plans and all details in connection with them are being prepared by architects in England, the work has been started, the contract has been let, and all that remains for the Public Works Department to do is to see that the work is carried out in accordance with the specifications. We have got an official specially sent out for that purpose. In regard to the Governor's Peak residence, another large item, the plans and details were prepared by a firm of local architects. The same official who looks after the Law Courts can also look after the Governor's Peak residence. The Volunteer Headquarters can also be taken on by the same officer. This is not too much to expect from a qualified architect. With regard to the Harbour Master's Office and the Western Market, for those we have another new officer who is a qualified architect and quite capable of completing the plans and carrying out these works. Generally speaking the department is well provided as regards staff, but there is one exception, and that is in regard to the Water Works. The new officer will be quite sufficient to attend to Tytam, but in the management of the water-works we are short. We require another overseer. We have lost a man who had been ten years in charge of the works. He went to Shanghai for more pay. Then the departure of Mr. Crook was a very serious matter. I do not in any way wish to reflect on his successor, Mr. Hollingsworth, but the breaking down of the pumping

engines and the trouble we had with Kowloon have led me to the conclusion that we require an extra overseer and an extra clerk.

The CHAIRMAN—With regard to the proposed increase in the staff it is of course too late to insert it in the estimates, but if the unofficial members recommend it the suggestion can be forwarded to the Secretary of State, who I have no doubt would sanction it.

The unofficial members signified their approval of this course.

The CHAIRMAN—With regard to the engines at the Kowloon Water Works, I see that the question was raised at the last meeting of the Council. Perhaps it will be well to let the Council know what steps have been taken in that direction.

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS—Our trouble at Kowloon Waterworks commenced in June of this year—one of the wettest Junes on record in Hongkong. There were two accidents occurred during that month. The earth embankments gave way. The result was that an enormous quantity of sand got into the engines and seriously damaged the valves, piston rods, and other parts. The water was abundant but the engines were out of order. We have done the best we could during the year. The only complaint within the last few weeks has been made by some gentleman who said that he had too much water—that his pipes were bursting and his house was flooded. However I thought it would be well to get the best opinion we could in the colony as to the Kowloon water supply, and I obtained the services of a thoroughly qualified man to make a report on the subject. His report has not gone forward, but I may say that he was examined the engines, but he is of opinion that if the machinery is thoroughly repaired and a new boiler provided we should be all right for another four years.

The CHAIRMAN—Is there any other question in connection with this matter which honourable members would like to ask?

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—I believe the Hon. Director of Public Works said that the plans for the Court House were being prepared at home. Do I understand that they are not yet finished?

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS—They are in the colony.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—The foundations are being put in.

The Hon. R. M. GRAY—I find that an item of \$5,600 for a new lighthouse on Green Island for D'Aguiar light is omitted from the estimates. The question of the improvement of the present lights at the entrances to the harbour was submitted to the Chamber of Commerce by the Government, and after it had been discussed with the shipping people the proposal was cordially approved, and the vote was recommended by the Public Works Committee. I submit that this needed improvement should not be shelved for another year. It is a reproach to this Port, which boasts of having the largest shipping returns in the world, that its entrances should be marked one side by a 3rd or 4th order light, on the other a 6th order light, both low down and not too distinct from shipping lights. The proposal to utilize the old D'Aguiar light of first order by placing it on the summit of Green Island is the first step towards a much needed improvement, and as such strongly recommend that the vote for \$5,600 for this purpose be placed in the estimates, and the work commenced without delay.

The CHAIRMAN—This matter has not escaped the attention of the Government. As the honourable member has pointed out, the matter was referred to the Chamber of Commerce, who made certain recommendations. Among the recommendations was one that the lights instead of being fixed lights should be revolving or flashing lights, and the question has been referred home for the opinion of Messrs. Chancellors, whose reply we have not yet received. I have no doubt that when the reply is received the matter will be again brought up, and no doubt His Excellency will bring forward a vote before the Council. As to the estimate mentioned by the honourable gentleman, it has been discovered that the cost will be double that amount, and it was thought advisable not to do anything before knowing definitely what the cost would be. But I can assure the honourable member that the question

has not been shelved, and that there is no desire on the part of the Government to shelve it.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER emphasised the importance of the work not being lost sight of, and The CHAIRMAN again re-assured members on the point.

On the item "School and House at Un Long, \$1,500" being read out.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI observed—I think there were two schools recommended, one at Un Long and the other at Yaumati. Considering that Yaumati has grown so much of late I think a school there is much more necessary than one at Un Long. I would like to know why a school at the latter place has been sanctioned while there is no mention of one at Yaumati.

The CHAIRMAN expressed his inability to answer this question, but expressed his willingness to have a recommendation from the unofficial members as to a school at Yaumati recorded if they wished it. The unofficial members signifying assent this was done.

This concluded the discussion on the estimates.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business. I think we can congratulate ourselves on the expeditious and satisfactory manner in which we have got through the estimates.

SUPREME COURT.

18th October.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

THE FATAL FIGHT AT EAST POINT.

There was only one case for the sessions, and that arose out of the quarrels which took place among the coolies employed at Jardine's Sugar Refinery at East Point on the 19th September, two men named U Tai Ngan and U Ching Tam being charged with the manslaughter of Cheng Ngan Hong. They pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. J. A. Tarrant (foreman), A. Tillet, A. Van Nierop, H. E. Craddock, A. A. E. Milroy, A. Forbes, and C. L. Gorham.

The Attorney-General (the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, Q.C.) said he took it that most of the jury knew that Messrs. Jardine had a sugar refinery down by East Point. About a month ago—that was, at about half-past six on the morning of the 19th September last—a number of coolies were engaged there piling and carrying sugar. A squabble arose over some trifling matter, but he did not think there was any actual fighting. At half-past eight the coolies stopped work for breakfast. The prisoners belonged to the same clan. It appeared that there were a good many coolies belonging to the U clan employed at the Sugar Works. There were also a number of Chengs, and the jury would notice that the deceased man was called Cheng Shui Hong. He had no doubt that clan feeling would incline the U's to take the part of any member of the clan who had had trouble with the Chengs or any other clan. The coolies of the U clan lived at 27, Jardine's Bazaar, and the Chengs at 30. On the way to their quarters the clans began to wrangle and then to fight. The deceased man was more or less injured in the quarrel. This fight, however, was not a serious affair. The result of the fight was that two men—one from each clan—were left on the ground after the others had cleared away. Their names were Cheng Ki and U Shui Hing. They were found by the police, who took them to the Police Station, U Shui Cheng being afterwards sent to the Hospital. This man charged the other with assault. The case came before the Magistrate, who adjourned it. In the meantime the prisoners had been arrested for being concerned in the attack on the deceased, and fearing lest he too might be implicated, U Shui Hing went away and the charge against the other man was dismissed. It appeared that the deceased was seen to enter his quarters by three men, who would say that he was followed by six members of the U clan, who caught hold of him and began to kick and knock him about, no one interfering with them. When they thought they had given him enough

they left him on the floor, the three men who had witnessed the assault following shortly afterwards. As the result of the attack upon him the deceased's skull was fractured and his spleen ruptured. The jury would be aware that for some reason or other very little injury would injure the spleen of any one belonging to the coolie class. Hearing of the row the police went to Jardine's Bazaar between nine and ten o'clock. They found the deceased there and sent him to the Hospital, where he died two days afterwards. The post mortem examination disclosed the fact that the small fracture of the skull brought on hemorrhage on the brain. There was a small clot of blood which pressed upon the brain near the base, and this was the cause of death. The question then arose as to the part the prisoners took in the transaction. After the deceased had been taken to the Hospital the police were taken to No. 27, Jardine's Bazaar, and the prisoners were pointed out to them as being two of the six men who attacked the deceased. The others had cleared away.

The evidence for the prosecution was then given.

The jury found the prisoners guilty, and they were each sentenced to four years' hard labour.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

LOCAL MOVEMENTS.

The British transport *Dalhousie* returned from Taku on the 13th inst.

The British transport *Pentakota* left on the 14th inst. for Taku.

The German gunboat *Tiger* came back on the 14th inst. from Canton.

The Austrian transport *Elektra* arrived on the 13th inst. from Odessa.

The British transport *Ashruf* returned from Shanghai on 15th inst.

The Japanese battleship *Asahi* left on the 15th inst. for Japan.

The German gunboat *Tiger* left the harbour on the 16th inst. for Shanghai.

The U.S. gunboat *Marietta* arrived on the 17th inst. from Swatow and left again for Canton.

The transport *Ashruf* departed on Tuesday night on her return journey to Bombay.

THE FUSILIERS TO RETURN TO HONGKONG.

The Welsh Fusiliers and other members of the Hongkong Garrison who went north are returning to Hongkong for the winter, together with the Bengal Lancers. We have intimated this before, but in consequence of contradicting reports being published we enquired at Headquarters on the 12th inst. and were informed that our statement was correct.

THE TROUBLE IN KWANGTUNG.

13th October.

It is reported that the rebels, some 2,500 strong, continue to move northwards, being afraid to meet Admiral Ho and his troops. Three of the places occupied by them have been evacuated.

On the 8th inst. the rebels surprised a body of Chinese troops at Pak Leung Sha, near Samshui, and defeated them. They took 40 prisoners, whose heads they cut off in the approved Chinese fashion.

15th October.

Admiral Ho has not yet commenced his advance from Samchun on the rebels. He has some 2,500 men with him, but he is awaiting 2,000 more, which are being sent to him from the Bogue Forts. The rebels, said to be 3,000 in number by this time, keep to the north. They still occupy a position at Lo Mo King. It was near the latter place that about 1,000 of them ambushed some 200 of Admiral Ho's men on the 8th inst. and killed 40 of them.

Captain Superintendent May is still on the border, and in Hongkong a military force is kept in readiness to cope with the rebels should they cross into British territory.

16th October.

The rebels in Kwangtung have advanced no nearer British territory, but in order to be prepared for eventualities a British force some 500 strong, under Major Ketlewell, left for the

border on the 15th inst. It comprises 300 men of the 22nd Bombay Infantry, 60 members of the Asiatic artillery, R. E. details and hospital details.

17th October.

Another thousand Chinese troops have arrived at Samchun, with a view to operations against the rebels, but no forward movement seems to have been taken as yet.

Rumours were current on the 16th inst., and the story appeared in our evening contemporary, the *China Mail*, to the effect that H.M.S. *Handy* had a brush on Monday with a mob of rebels on the New Territory border near Samchun, who were advancing in the direction of British ground. The *Handy* is alleged to have fired into the mob and killed many. As a matter of fact the *Handy* was all the time in Hongkong harbour, and also there were no rebels in the district specified.

18th October.

The rebels appear to be retreating still further from the British border. A party who were posted at Sha Wo Kang have left and joined another body at Pak Mang Fa, still another body being stationed not far from the latter place—Sam Cho Chuk. Pak Mang Fa is some 25 miles north of Samshui.

It is understood that Admiral Ho proposes to commence his advance on *Wongkong* at once.

The report that the *Handy* fired on a body of the rebels and killed 40 of them had no foundation.

19th October.

Admiral Ho has commenced his advance upon the rebels. No other news is to hand from the other side to-day.

THE GERMAN ACCOUNT OF SHANHAIKWAN.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* gives the following account of the capture of Shanhaikwan:—

The Shanhaikwan forts have been occupied by the allied forces without a shot being fired. Vice-Admiral Bendemann, who was ordered to attack the forts with ships of the different nationalities, sent the British gunboat *Pigmy* on ahead from Taku to Shanhaikwan to demand the surrender. When the *Pigmy* arrived at Shanhaikwan, the Chinese commander surrendered the fort to the Allied Powers, without attempting any resistance. It is said that he had received instructions from Li Hung-chang to do so. The commander of the *Pigmy* immediately hoisted the British flag, giving notice to the chief of the squadron of what had happened. Thereupon men-of-war of all nationalities left Taku to take part in the formal occupation of Shanhaikwan. The Russian troops, who in the meantime had started to reach the forts by land, did not reach them before they were surrendered to the allied fleet.

The account which has reached us of the occupation of Shanhaikwan is a little different, says the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 9th inst., from that contained in the *Ostasiatische Lloyd's* Extra, nor do we see why, as Admiral Seymour is at Taku, the *Pigmy* should take her orders from Admiral Bendemann. The true account is that the *Pigmy* was sent to reconnoitre the Shanhaikwan fort, and found it evacuated, on which she landed 18 men and an officer and hoisted the British flag on the fort, only about an hour before a force of some three thousand Russians arrived by rail. It is reported that the evacuation was arranged between Li Hung-chang and the Russians. The *Pigmy* steamed back at once to Taku to report, and the *Fume* was sent and brought back word that the Chinese flag was still flying on the fort, whence a story arose that the *Pigmy's* party had been captured by the Chinese. It was not, however, the Shanhaikwan fort that the *Fume* saw. General Reid has now gone to Shanhaikwan with the third brigade from Weihaiwei.

PRINCE TUAN'S REVENGE.

A number of letters recently received from Shansi by bankers, natives of that province doing business in Shanghai, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, all agree in stating that there is a reign of terror and pillage in Taiyuan, the provincial capital of Shansi, where the Refugee Court had been staying for three weeks. This is declared to be due to the memorial drawn up by the gentry and literati of the principal capital when the Empress Dowager arrived at Taiyuan.

demanding the punishment of Prince Tuan, Kang Yi and other authors and instigators of the Boxer rebellion—as was reported in these columns in the middle of last month—and the above noted letters all charge the present outrages of the Manchu troops and Boxers in Tai-yuan against the gentry, literati and wealthy merchants of the city as a premeditated revenge of Prince Tuan, etc., against those who have denounced him and his party. The letters above quoted do not, however, say whether the outrages began after the departure of the Court for Hsian or before.

TIENTSIN ITEMS.

From the *Peking and Tientsin Times* of the 6th inst. we take the following items:—

Mr. C. W. Campbell took over charge for the present of H.B.M.'s Consulate General on the 1st inst. He is still suffering from the effects of his wound.—Mr. Kinder, accompanied by Mr. Cox, left for Shanghai with the troops on the 2nd inst., to inspect and report on the railway from that point, we believe.—Mr. Lowrie has, we hear, been engaged as an interpreter by the British Military Authorities at Tientsin.—We believe the rice that was expected from the South is not obtainable, as Sheng Taotai declines to negotiate tribute rice. This will make the supply up here very limited this winter unless some other arrangements are made.—We hear that Tuan seized the Imperial seal, and none of the Edicts being issued therefore bear the Imperial signet.—Another letter has arrived here from the Green family which states that in consequence of a communication from Li Hung-chang the Chinese were arranging to take them to Peking, also the party from Chengting-fu. We hope this is really the case.

A correspondent writes to our contemporary:—The proclamations of Viceroy Li Hung-chang are widely posted up in Paoingfu and neighbourhood. In these proclamations it is asserted that peace has been made with the foreigners who have promised to all withdraw to the ports, that Christians are all to recant or suffer death and confiscation of property, but that Boxers are to be apprehended and killed! Accordingly, Boxers are being seized in numbers and put to death.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

The following decree issued on the 4th inst., when the Imperial party was en route to Hsian-fu, relates the attempt on the Empress Dowager's life of which we have already been informed by telegraph:—

When the Imperial cortege was proceeding on its way to our new capital, Hsian, and while passing through, this morning, the village of Yian, district of Kiashiu, Shansi province, a certain madman, named Kuo T'eng-yuan, who styled himself a Boxer Chief, suddenly rushed upon the Imperial cortege with strange language and in strange attire (meaning thereby "with cries of vengeance and weapons on person"—Translator), thereby disturbing our line of progress (that is to say, there was an attempt at assassination—Translator). The said Kuo T'eng-yuan was therefore summarily executed on the spot without trial. As for Ch'ên, magistrate of the said district of Kinshiu, who has been guilty of instigating and encouraging the Boxers, he is hereby forthwith cashiered and dismissed for ever from the public service.

The translator of the above in the *N.-C. Daily News*, to which we are indebted for the translation, says:—In other words, since the above named magistrate of Kinshiu, in Shansi, has been cashiered and dismissed for ever, for instigating and encouraging Boxers, question may well be asked what must therefore be the punishment due those who are so much higher in rank than he and who were more guilty of instigating and encouraging the Boxers at Peking and in Chihli? Furthermore, the summary decapitation of the would-be assassin of the Empress Dowager is very strange, as the Chinese law demands that the person guilty of "disturbing the line of progress of the Imperial cortege" should be handed over to the Minister presiding over the Board of Punishments for trial, and when found guilty of the misdemeanor he is merely bamboozed 100 blows and exiled 3,000 li for three years. The summary decapitation of Kuo T'eng-yuan without trial of any sort, must therefore contain in itself something very serious which later news will perhaps explain.

DARING PIRACY CASE.

\$32,000 STOLEN FROM A FRENCH LAUNCH—
TWO MEN KILLED.

A daring case of piracy was reported to the police on Sunday morning, 14th inst., by Messrs. Sculfort and Co., of Hongkong, the owners of the *Nau Chau*, a steam launch flying the French flag and plying between Hongkong and Kwah-chauwan.

It seems that she left Kwanchauwan at five o'clock on the morning of the 12th inst. with the passengers (six of whom turned out to be pirates) and a cargo of cotton yarn and other commodities and 14 boxes of specie containing \$32,000. The crew numbered 18 men and boys.

At 12.30 a.m. on the 13th inst., when at a place called Mong Chan, which is 112.25 east and 20.40 north on the chart, two of the passengers who had come on board with a box containing four carpenters' axes, professing to be carpenters, attacked the compradore, the assistant compradore, and the cook, as they were sleeping in the cabin, inflicting serious injuries upon them with their axes. At the same time three of the other passengers rushed on to the bridge and made an onslaught upon the captain (a Chinaman), the pilot, the steersman, and a sailor. The sailor closed with one of the assailants, wrested an axe from him, and having struck him a blow, threw him overboard. The captain and the others who were on the bridge were pressed forward, and the steersman was thrown into the sea. Neither he nor the pirate whom the sailor pitched into the water were seen afterwards, and in all probability both were drowned. The captain and others having been secured in the hatch forward, the pirates got possession of four loaded Winchester and a revolver and turned their attention to the engine-room. The firemen, having heard the scuffling, were coming on deck when they were met with a volley, one of them, named Leung Tai Yan, being shot dead. Having overpowered the engine-room crew, the pirates forced the engineer to remove the eccentric rods from the reversing gear of the engine, to run the water out of the boiler, and to sever the steering chain. There is also a cut in the connecting rod of the steering chain opposite the engine-room, this having apparently been done with a chisel with the object of disabling the steering gear. The part of the machinery thus removed was thrown overboard, this being done with the object of preventing the crew from following the pirates on their leaving the launch.

At about this time a junk which was crowded with men came alongside, the men speaking Cantonese and the Sanui dialect. Shots were fired from the junk at the two boats hanging on the davits, and being riddled with bullets the boats were rendered useless.

At 5 a.m. on the 13th inst. the pirates, having evidently gone away in the junk by then, the engine-room crew came on deck. They released the men who had been secured in the hatch forward, removing some long spikes with which the hatch had been fastened down, and the anchor, and then turned their attention to the engine. The latter was not disabled totally, and the launch was able to proceed slowly on her way to Hongkong.

It was found that the pirates had made a fine haul, having gone away with all the specie, four Winchester rifles and a revolver, a cask of liqueur brandy, an aneroid, a binocular, and clothing, jewelry, and money taken from the crew valued at \$1,200. The compradore was relieved of \$560, four watches, and some clothing; the assistant compradore \$200 and some clothing; the pilot \$47 and clothing; and other members of the crew were also stripped of their belongings.

On the launch arriving in Hongkong the two dead bodies were removed. The wounded men declined to go to Hospital, preferring to go to the houses of their friends.

It is some time since a piracy of such a magnitude as this took place in this locality. Every precaution seems to have been taken at Kwanchauwan to prevent any bad characters from taking passage. The men who carried the carpenter's box on board were apparently harmless individuals, there being nothing about them to lead anyone to conclude that they were not what they represented themselves to be.

THE REGULATIONS AS TO BACK-YARDS

An interesting case arising out of the regulations as to back-yards came before Mr. Hasland on the 12th inst. The defendant was Wong Chuk-yan, the owner of houses Nos. 29 and 41, Staunton Street. It appears that in May last the houses in question—corner houses—were certified as being in accordance with the Public Health Ordinance, the conditions as to back-yards, etc., having been complied with. In September an application came before the Sanitary Board asking that the houses might be exempted from the condition as to back-yards, and seeing that they had already been passed the Secretary to the Board replied that the Board had decided to accept the houses as complying with the Ordinance. The application was accompanied by a plan, and Mr. Bowley, on behalf of the prosecution, contended that this plan did not lead the Board to conclude that any alterations were to be effected. Mr. Wilkinson, for the defendant, contended, on the other hand, that the plan showed that the defendant wished to extend his kitchens over the back-yards and that in view of the reply he received from the Secretary to the Sanitary Board he was justified in going on with the work. In view of the points raised Mr. Hasland decided to adjourn the case until Wednesday afternoon in order that the whole matter might be thoroughly argued.

On the resumption of the case on the 17th inst., Mr. Wilkinson admitted that the back-yards in question had been blocked up, but stated that it had been lawfully done in virtue of a written permission to do so received by the defendant's contractor from the Secretary of the Sanitary Board. He said that the houses in question were two corner houses, one abutting on Staunton Street and Graham Street, and the other on Staunton Street and Peel Street. The building of the houses was commenced last year, the original plans showing no back-yards to these two houses. They were completed according to such plans in April last, but on the usual certificate being applied for to the Sanitary Board, the Defendant was refused such certificate unless he pulled down a portion of the back part of the premises and made back-yards in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 34 of 1899, which was about to come into force. The Defendant accordingly did what was required. A few months afterwards, having heard that the Sanitary Board had been giving permission to owners of other corner houses to dispense with back-yards, the Defendant's Contractor, at the request of the Defendant, wrote the following letter to Dr. Clark and sent with it a plan showing the whole of the space at the back of these two houses covered by kitchens:—

"72, Hollywood Road,
Hongkong, September 16th, 1900.

To Dr. F. W. Clark.

Dear Sir,—I beg most respectfully to write to ask for a permission of exemption for opening a back-yard in houses Nos. 29 and 41, Staunton Street, owing to the above mentioned houses, being one side on the border of the cross street about 24 feet wide, and having windows opened facing to the street to communicate with the fresh air. Herewith find the plan of the above mentioned houses by which you will get the idea more plainly. It will be kind enough if your Honour will grant me a permission for the exemption from opening a back-yard in houses No. 29 and 41, Staunton Street, at your earliest convenience.—I have the honour to be Sir, your most obedient servant,

(sd.) TAM CHIN.

Three days later the following reply was sent by the Acting Secretary of the Sanitary Board and with it the plan was returned:

"Sanitary Board Office, 16th September, 1900.
NOS. 29 AND 41, STAUNTON STREET.

Sir,—In reply to your letter dated 16th September, applying for exemption from providing back-yards for the above houses, I beg to inform you that the Board have decided to accept these houses as complying with Ordinance 34 of 1899. Plans returned herewith.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant.

(sd.) G. A. WOOLCOCK, Acting Secretary.
Mr. Tam Chin.

Mr. Wilkinson submitted that any person possessed of common sense, reading these two letters and looking at the plan which accompanied them would necessarily come to the conclusion that the Sanitary Board granted the permission asked for, viz., to dispense with back-yards to these two houses as shown on the plan. That was how his client had construed the Acting Secretary's letter and accordingly he had leisurely and without interruption by anyone, rebuilt over the back-yards in manner shown on the plan. The work had been finished some time ago, and now without warning, the Sanitary Board had summoned the defendant for doing that which Mr. Wilkinson contended, the Board had given him permission to do. He argued that it was not open for the prosecution to say that the Sanitary Board had no power to grant such permission, for it must be presumed that what had been done by them officially in this instance had been lawfully done. He further submitted that Sec. 7 Sub-sec. (c) of Ordinance 34 of 1899 empowered the Sanitary Board to grant the permission which he contended had been granted. He objected to any parole evidence being given to explain what was said by the prosecution to be the intention of the Acting Secretary of the Sanitary Board in writing that letter of the 19th September.

Mr. Bowley contended that the Secretary's letter of the 19th Sept. was not intended to be, nor was it, a grant of permission to obstruct the back-yards or open spaces, but was merely an intimation that the Board had decided to accept the houses as complying with the Ordinance as such houses then were, with back-yards to them, but without windows opening into such back-yards as required by the Ordinance. He submitted that the plan which accompanied the letter did not show any proposed alterations as it was not coloured in such a way as is usual with plans prepared for the alteration of buildings. He further contended that the Sanitary Board had no power to grant permission to obstruct already existing back-yards. Sub-sec. (d) of Sec. 7 specially provided that "in no case" could existing back-yards be obstructed.

The Magistrate reserved his decision.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong Jockey Club was held on Saturday, 13th inst., at noon, at the City Hall. Hon. C. P. Charter, C.M.G., presided. The other gentlemen present were:—Sir Thos. Jackson, Hon. R. M. Gray, Hon. J. J. Keawick, Major M. M. Morris, R.A., Messrs A. H. Babington, J. H. Lewis, M. Grote and D. Gillies (Stewards); T. F. Hough (Clerk of Course), Colonel The O'Gorman, Messrs J. C. Peter, J. Y. V. Vernon, A. G. Morris, J. Goosmann, A. Haupt, J. Allen, H. Humphreys, W. G. Humphreys, J. McKie, M. S. Northcote, W. G. Brutton, H. J. Gedge, Snidder, N. A. Siebs, F. Maitland, W. H. Percival, G. Murray Bain, H. Burton, A. Shelton Hooper, G. T. Veitch, A. Fullerton, Hart Buck, R. Potts, W. Farmer, J. P. Madar, H. P. White, E. C. Ray, P. Jordan, J. Wacker, and others.

The CLERK OF COURSE read the annual report, which has already been published in our columns.

The CHAIRMAN—Before referring to the business before us, I should like to place on record the expression of our regret at the loss we have sustained in the death of Mr. Charles F. Harton, who for several years acted as one of the stewards and rendered valuable assistance at our meetings. You have just heard the Clerk of the Course read his report for the past year, and the accounts from the Hon. Treasurer have been in your hands for some time. These accounts have no doubt been carefully studied. As you will note, we commenced the year with a debit balance of \$20,742.88, and this has, I am glad to say, been reduced to \$10,850.58, showing a gain in revenue of \$9,892.30, which I think you will readily admit indicates a healthy condition of our finances. In common with all other institutions, our expenditure shows an increase under most headings, that for labour being perhaps most conspicuous, owing to the necessity for engaging outside assistance during the annual Race Meeting and the general rise

in wages. The item of furniture includes not only the new Coffee Room furniture and other requirements, but also the cost of the new private stands which were constructed for convenience of owners and jockeys and members of the club, and which were so much appreciated at the last meeting. As you will remember, admission to these reserved enclosures was by tickets issued by the Clerk of the Course and the Hon. Treasurer. In reference to this matter, I may mention that while on some counts it may be regretted that there are places to which a ticket for the Grand Stand will not give admission, this has been caused by the large increase of the community necessitating some provision for the conservation on the privileges of members. Notwithstanding the extra expenditure just alluded to, the values of the prizes contributed by the Club at the last meeting showed no diminution. A reference to the accounts will show that while the entries and nominations amounted to \$5,580, the sums returned in stakes and given in prizes aggregated \$8,435.55. On the Credit side, all items of revenue show a material advance on those for the previous year. With regard to the future the Clerk of the Course tells us that the buildings are all in good repair, and we need not anticipate any extraordinary expenditure on the stables. Certain improvements to the Grand Stand and compound remain to be carried out, however, and some additional building will be required before long, the erection of which will have to be provided for. Turning now to a different but equally interesting subject, the supply of subscription griffins, the Committee anticipated that some difficulty might be experienced this year in securing the usual shipment from the North, owing to the Boxer trouble, and lost no time in applying to the Shanghai Horse Bazaar, which had contracted with us for past years, when they promptly replied that they would be unable to supply our wants this year. A meeting of subscribers was thereupon convened, and the circumstances laid before them. They quickly decided that an effort should be made to supply the place of the usual China mokes with Australian ponies. The result was that an order for forty ponies was placed with Mr. O. Bell, and we have since had telegraphic advices to the effect that forty-three ponies have been shipped per steamer Tsinan from Brisbane, and they may be expected to arrive here early next month. Up to within the last few days we had clung to the hope that it would not be necessary to go outside China for ponies to compete for the Derby, but a letter just received from the manager of the Shanghai Horse Bazaar dissipates that hope, for there seems to be no chance whatever of the customary mobs of ponies coming from the North. This is most unfortunate, since it will not only alter the character of our subscription griffin races, but the absence of ponies for the griffin races will necessitate the remodelling of the whole of the programme for the forthcoming meeting. The change will call for the prompt and careful consideration of the Stewards to be elected by you to-day. Before moving the adoption of the report, I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Colonel The O'GORMAN seconded, and the motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. GEDGE, seconded by Major MORRIS, it was decided to hold the Gymkhana as usual next year.

The following is the report of the Gymkhana Committee for 1900:—

Conformably with the resolution passed at the last annual meeting of the Hongkong Jockey Club, a series of five Gymkhana were held at intervals during the past season, viz.—on April 23th, June 9th, July 11th, August 25th and October 6th. There were not so many pony races as formerly, owing to the scarcity of ponies in the colony, probably due to the disturbances in North China. In the 5th Gymkhana a flat race for China ponies was advertised, but no entries were obtained for it. The 2nd and 4th Gymkhana were entirely spoilt by the weather, and should have been postponed. As the 5th Gymkhana was only held on Saturday last, closed accounts are not yet available; there is to-day at the credit of the Committee with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking

Corporation some \$234.17; certain fees for entries have to be added; and from this fund the expenses pertaining to the last meeting and prizes have to be paid.

The following gentlemen were elected by ballot as Stewards:—

Sir Thomas Jackson, Major M. M. Morris, R.A., Hon. C. P. Charter, C.M.G., Hon. J. J. Keawick, Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Messrs M. Grote, A. Babington, D. Gillies, R. M. Gray and J. H. Lewis.

This concluded the business of the ordinary meeting.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING—THE

ENTRANCE FEE AT THE RACES.

Immediately after the ordinary general meeting an extraordinary general meeting was held, the Hon. C. P. Charter, C.M.G., presiding, for the purpose of considering a proposed alteration in the rules.

The CHAIRMAN said he might point out to them that it had been thought it was in the interests of the Club that Rule 39 should be altered. Instead of having a fixed sum as an entrance fee for other than members, it was thought the power should be given to the Stewards to fix the amount of the cost of the ticket of entrance to the Stand. With reference to the latter part of the Rule 39 "for admission to the Second Stand," there being no second stand now, that portion of the rule was obsolete. He proposed:—That Rule 39 of the Rules and Regulations of the Hongkong Jockey Club shall be amended by striking out the last two lines of the Rule and by substituting therefor the following:—For non-members and visitors such charges as the Stewards in their discretion shall think fit: such charges to be determined by the Stewards and made public at least one month before each race meeting.

Mr. HART BUCK asked whether it was intended to raise the subscription. He might say that last year it was agreed to raise the subscription, and it was found it could not be done without an alteration in the rules. His opinion was that the subscription of non-members was quite sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN said what Mr. Buck had just stated was exactly the case. Last year it was the intention of the Stewards slightly to increase the charge for tickets, but on looking over the rule they found it was not in their power to do so. What was proposed to be done now was simply to give power to the Stewards either to raise or lower the fee. He should just like to point out that the finances of the Club were in a good position; the chances were that the fee would not be raised, and better still it might be reduced, but it was best that the power to fix the price should be given to the Stewards. It was provided that a month's notice of the change should be given.

Mr. BRUTTON asked whether the proposed alteration was likely to increase the income of the Jockey Club. It seemed to him that unless they were perfectly satisfied that they were going to get half as many people, outsiders and visitors, to pay the \$10, the Club would lose instead of gain money. Last year when the proposal came forward to raise the price many people told him that they were not in a position to pay the \$10, and asked the reason why the entrance fee should be raised. They said that if the subscription was raised to \$10 they were prepared to stay away, as they could not take the same interest in the racing. The price of everything in the colony had gone up. They might smile, but they were not all landlords, and it touched the people who had to pay the increased rates. There were a great number of people in the colony who would hesitate to pay the extra \$5 for the race meeting, and he took it it was in the interests of the Stewards and the club to induce people, outsiders and visitors, to attend the race meeting. If the intention was to raise the subscription it would keep people away. During the days the meeting is held a holiday was practically observed to give the people an opportunity of attending the meeting, and it seemed to him if the entrance fee was raised the people would start an amusement on their own account and invite their friends to join them. He asked the meeting to consider the matter well.

The CHAIRMAN said the members were pleased to listen to Mr. Brutton's remarks, and no

doubt the Stewards elected would take heed of his observations. It did not follow that the alteration necessarily meant they were to raise the subscription—it simply gave the Stewards power to fix the price.

Mr. SUTHER, in seconding, said he felt sure the matter could be safely left in the hands of the Stewards.

The resolution was carried, and the meeting terminated.

A DISHONEST COOLIE BROUGHT TO BOOK.

FORTUNATE RECOVERY OF \$2,000.

The owner of an earthenware and porcelain shop at No. 59, Queen's Road Central, has reason to congratulate himself on the fortunate recovery of a sum of \$2,044 which had been stolen from him.

When he left his shop at about eight o'clock on the evening of the 12th inst. there was a considerable sum of money in the safe. On going to business at about seven o'clock the following morning he found that \$2,044 had been extracted, the safe having evidently been left unlocked. An investigation disclosed the fact that a coolie who had slept on the premises was missing and suspicion at once fell upon him. It was supposed that he had left the colony by the eight o'clock boat to Canton, and a wire was sent to Canton requesting that he should be detained. When the boats arrived at Canton, however, the man who was wanted was nowhere to be seen.

On Sunday night a man who had arrived from Namtau, near Deep Bay, called upon the shopkeeper, and said that if he would hire a launch and return with him to Namtau he would take him to the man who had appropriated his money. The shopkeeper did not jump at this offer, thinking it might be a ruse to get possession of a launch for piratical purposes. He accordingly consulted with a friend and they both decided to see the police about the matter. The man from Namtau repeated his statement to the police. In the meantime another Namtau resident made his appearance. He also offered to take the shopkeeper to the whereabouts of the coolie, who, he said, had \$2,000 in his possession.

The upshot was that Deputy-Superintendent Badesley sent a couple of Chinese detectives to Namtau, with the shopkeeper and the two informers, they being armed with a letter to the Namtau authorities. The coolie was here found to be in custody. It appears that on Saturday night, 13th inst., some soldiers, whom the recent disturbances had put on the alert, caught the coolie climbing over the walls into the city. He could give no satisfactory account of himself, and when he was discovered to have \$2,000 on his person the soldiers' suspicions were still further aroused and they handed him over to the civil authorities. The wonder is that they did not deprive him of his money, divide it among themselves, and let him go.

The men who came over to Hongkong got wind of this. The coolie is a Namtau man. They discovered where he had been working in Hongkong, and naturally concluded that he had stolen the money from his employer.

The official in charge at Namtau has communicated the facts of the case to his superior, who has gone to Samchun in connection with the expedition sent to oppose the rebels, and no doubt the coolie will meet with his deserts in due time.

The shopkeeper may consider himself fortunate in having recovered his money so quickly, and no doubt he will adequately reward the men who gave him information as to the whereabouts of his dishonest servant so opportunely.

H.B.M. flagship *Barfleur*, with Admiral Bruce on board, left Nagasaki on the 8th inst. for Weihaiwei. The *Aurora* came out of dock on the 7th and left on the 9th for Woosung. The *L. d. Euse* is in dock at Nagasaki, and when her repairs have been executed she will leave for Weihaiwei. The German flagship *Hansa*, with Rear-Admiral Kirchhoff on board, arrived at Nagasaki on the 6th inst. from Shanhaikwan. She will make a protracted stay and will undergo repairs in the local Mitsui Bishi dock. She will probably sail for Taku at the end of this month.

SHANGHAI'S DEFENCE SCHEME.

Shanghai slept through a rehearsal of the defence scheme on the 9th inst., the *N. C. Daily News* relates. There were concerned in this matter all the troops now under the command of Major-General O'Moore Creagh, V.C., and also the French Company of Volunteers. The rehearsal consisted in the early turning-out of the troops, and their taking up the positions which are assigned to them in case of trouble.

The Shanghai Volunteer Corps were called out at five, while it was yet dusk, by the sending round of cards headed "Actual Service," which commanded them to repair at once to their posts fully armed and accoutred. The signal was a complete surprise, but a very good number assembled, and waited at ease until they were finally visited by Major-General Creagh, and thanked and complimented for their appearance.

The whole of the brigade of Indian troops move out from their camps, with the exception of the 3rd Baluchis who remained at their station near the Brigade Office. The Rajputs, Sikhs, and Ghurkas went to their places, while the Bombay Cavalry carried out peacefully such duties at the limits of the Settlements as would fall to them under more active conditions. The French Volunteers were similarly employed in their Concession. Everything had finished after nine, and the Settlement resumed its wonted appearances.

As usual, certain dovescotes were fluttered with the thought that peril was imminent, and that the Volunteers who left their homes were going into danger. The more, since yesterday was the date originally set apart for the massacre of all foreigners here. Needless to say, no danger was apprehended at any time. The parade was just an ordinary practice of the scheme of defence, and was caused by no reports of intended attacks, riots, or anything of the kind.

A NEW TREATY POINT IN JAPAN.

The British Foreign Office, supported by the law officers of the Crown, has recently decided a point of great importance to foreign holders of land in the Yokohama Settlements which has excited much alarm amongst them, says the *Manchester Guardian*. The titles to lots of land in the Settlements were derived from the Japanese Government, and were in form of perpetual leases—a form of right in land unknown then, and still unknown, to Japanese law, but which at the time of the creation of the Settlements was that in which the foreign representatives desired that the title should be granted. Then came the new treaties, which provide that all the rights of foreigners in land and property are to be preserved intact, as they were under the old treaties. Now, in Japan the ownership and all encumbrances on and rights in respect of land are to be registered in the local prefectures or other district offices, a complete system of land registration prevailing in that country. When the foreign landowners went to register their land as soon as the new treaties came into force they found that their titles were registered as "perpetual superficies" and not perpetual leases, the former being the nearest approach in Japanese law to the latter, but it is not so valuable a right as perpetual lease, for the superficies is liable under the Civil Code to be made terminable by the decree of court, whereas the lease is not. To meet this hitch the Japanese devised the expedient of entering the rights as "perpetual superficies" followed by the words "perpetual lease" in brackets. But this did not satisfy the landholders, who have a certain title secured by treaty, as they consider, and who decline, therefore, to accept anything less; while the Japanese can only register titles recognised by Japanese law. Meanwhile all dealings with land in the Settlements, which, of course, is immensely valuable, are suspended; the utmost inconvenience is being felt; and after a good deal of agitation the matter has been referred home, and the law officers have held that the landholders are absolutely right, and that they are entitled to registration of their titles as perpetual leases and nothing else. This means that the Japanese must legislate so as to make legal for the old foreign Settlements a new description of ownership of land. The

wonder is that they did not do this when legislating on other points connected with the new treaties, and the Government hesitated about doing so now owing to the feeling prevailing in certain quarters in Japan on the proposed legislation to allow foreigners to own land in Japan.

H.M.S. "TERRIBLE" RUNS AGROUND.

The Weihaiwei correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* records that the dredger *St. Enoch*, now at Weihaiwei, was requisitioned to help the *Terrible* out of difficulty the other night. The great cruiser had been "standing by" in readiness to proceed to Taku for several days, and on Monday afternoon (1st October) the expected orders arrived, steam was got up immediately, and in order to save time an attempt was made to draw out into the channel. The mooring of the *Descartes*, however, necessitated a too narrow margin and the current carried the *Terrible's* starboard bow on to the ground in the extreme western end of the island. She was got off uninjured the next morning by the help of the *St. Enoch*, the crew going over the side to lighten the ship. Meantime orders to proceed to sea were countermanded. Had not this accident occurred, it would have been an interesting spectacle, Weihaiwei under the sole protection of two French men-of-war.

THE TRADE OF SINGAPORE.

Sir Alex. Swettenham, the officer administering the Government at Singapore, in the annual address to the Legislative Council reviewing the financial prospects of the Colony, thus refers to the trade of the Settlements:—

"As in 1898, Exchange with the Mother Country was comparatively steady during 1899, the difference between the highest and lowest rates for demand during the year being only 1½d. The commercial world also enjoyed more than usual prosperity and the trade of the Colony reflected the general condition of mercantile progress. Our imports of goods from other countries showed an increase in sterling values of considerably over 18 per cent. while the increases in exports was approximately 20 per cent. Both Singapore and Penang participated in these increases. The high prices which were obtainable for tin contributed largely to the enhanced percentage in exports.

"A comparison of the trade figures for the first half of the present year with those for the same period of 1899 shows an increase of 23½ million dollars or over 49 per cent. in imports and an increase of over 16½ million dollars or more than 15½ per cent. in exports. In imports the chief increases come under the heads of Foodstuffs, Raw Materials, and Manufactured Articles. In exports, Tin and Produce show the largest increases. The comparative returns for the second quarters of both years, however, are less favourable.

"Complications in the Far East are temporarily restricting our trade with China, but it is not too much to expect that a peaceful settlement of the country will result in a large increase in our trade and prosperity. Meanwhile the demand for coal has been extraordinary.

Referring to a depreciation of nearly \$25,000 in the value of the securities held by the Currency Commissioners, and the steps taken to cover the depreciation, Sir Alexander says:—

"There are many causes which at the present moment favour depreciation. The South African War has lowered the value of British Securities all round, and the cost of the expedition to China has prevented values from rising. The troubles of the Government of India have depreciated the value of Indian Securities, and the rise of Silver in terms of Gold has rendered investments both in Europe and India, worth fewer dollars than were originally paid for them; further advances amounting to about \$126,000 are being made to balance the depreciation account.

"Owing to the demonetisation of the Japanese Yen there are and has been a very considerable increase in the number of the British dollars imported by the Banks in 1899, the value being \$29,249,725, against \$19,408,169 imported in 1898. The introduction of the British dollar

for which we owe a debt of gratitude to the Chartered and Hongkong and Shanghai Banks, has been extraordinarily successful and opportune."

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 12th October.

KWANGTUNG REBELS DEFEAT IMPERIALISTS AND CAPTURE WAICHOW.

News has reached here that Waichow City has been taken by the rebels, who defeated the Imperial troops, of whom 60 were killed and the rest put to flight. The rebels then advanced to Tungkoon yesterday, and if they can succeed in taking the latter place they will march to Sun Tong and thence to Canton, from Canton to Fatsan and from Fatsan into Kwangsi. It is said that they are the partisans of Sun-yat sen and Kang Yu-wei.

Canton, 13th October.

WAICHOW RECOVERED.

News came at 2 p.m. to-day that Waichow is beginning to be quiet. Upon the arrival of the reinforcements of mandarin soldiers the insurgents ran away and dispersed in every direction.

THE WORK OF THE "AVALANCHE."

The French gunboat *Avalanche* has returned from Kunchuk; eight men had been beheaded by order of the mandarins before she went up. The French authorities still press for a satisfactory settlement of the affair.

DESECRATION OF A CEMETERY.

The Protestant Cemetery at a short distance from the Macao Fort, Canton, has been desecrated, some stone crosses being broken and some marble slabs shifted from their positions. This was done by the anti-christian party. A few soldiers who were on watch at the Fort have been arrested and ordered to be beheaded.

REBELS IN SUN ON.

It is said in Canton that Sun On district has been completely taken possession of by the insurgents.

THE FRENCH BISHOP'S DEATH.

We received the sad news yesterday of the death of the French Bishop of Canton, who died in Hongkong. The flags of the Foreign Consulates are flying half-mast high to-day. Owing to the unsettled state of affairs in Canton the Consuls, Mons. Hardouin, Mr. R. McWade, the Portuguese Consul-General, Mr. Crespo, and other Consuls have been unable to leave their posts and attend the funeral.

Canton, 17th October.

REQUIEM MASS FOR BISHOP CHAUSSE.

A Requiem High Mass was sung at 8.30 this morning in the Roman Catholic Chapel, Shamen, for the repose of the soul of the Right Rev. Bishop Chausse of Canton, who died in Hongkong. The Consular Body, the Commanders, officers and marines of gunboats, heads of mercantile firms, and some residents of Shamen were present at the ceremony by invitation. General Li, commander of the Kwong Hip native regiment, accompanied by his guards, also assisted at the service, representing the Acting Viceroy Tak Sow.

The proposal of the Straits Settlements Government to build a lighthouse on Palan Aor "as a point to make for in entering Singapore from the eastward," has been unfavorably received by many of the shipping people at Singapore. Referring to the subject in its issue of the 10th inst. the *S. F. Press* says:—A Master Mariner of many years experience out here pooh-poohs the idea, as a lighthouse, he says, is quite unnecessary there. The island is 2,000 feet high and cannot possibly be overlooked, except in weather too thick to see such a looming mass: then a lighthouse would be no good, as that would not be visible. There are no surrounding dangers, the island rising sheer from the sea, without shoals or rocks near. As for it being a point to make for nature has already provided the Anambas, less than a hundred miles away, from where a course can be set for the Straits.—"If the Government want to spend money on lights," continued our friend, "Why not put one on the Blenheim Shoal? That is outside the range of the One Fathom Bank light, and is always a source of anxiety to ship-masters."

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 14th October.

DISTURBANCE AT THE PORTA DE CERCO.

Yesterday at noon some trouble took place between the guards at the Porta de Cerco, and the Chinese in the villages near the Guard House. There is a certain class of Chinese here who think that they can successfully battle against the guards, and with any body of armed men. The Porta de Cerco is guarded by marines, and yesterday these were stoned by a number of agriculturalists, but not for long, as others coming up by way of reinforcements a number of the offenders were arrested and lodged in jail. The guards were subsequently doubled, and remained so throughout the whole of yesterday.

A SUDDEN ALARM.

To-day, being Sunday, the place seemed pretty quiet, but at eight o'clock in the evening an alarm was sounded at the Porta de Cerco, and was answered by a round fired from the gunboat *Zaire*, and followed by another four rounds from the Monte Fort. Then the whole city was put into preparation for an attack. The newly arrived troops were soon on the spot, and here I must say these men are well disciplined, and march forward with considerable dash, well-trained and with soldierly bearing. The various streets in the city were well watched and guarded, and piquets lined the main thoroughfares. At the principal street corners piquets of eight or ten men from the old police force were stationed. But fortunately the alarm proved abortive, and explanations followed. It appears that, before the troops arrived, the marines fired a few rounds at a gang of Chinese coming from the Porta de Cerco, and that had caused the alarm and subsequent excitement. The civilians, who had formed a force of their own, were ready to march on with the artillery when ordered, but their services were not required.

AN ENQUIRY NECESSARY.

The Government will certainly make enquiries as to whether the alarm was justified or not. If there is any foundation it will be "O.K.," if not, then the authors will be called upon to answer for what they have done. If it was required to know how easily the troops could turn out, the telephone could be used, and not loaded rifles to scare the people into an unnecessary state of frenzy. As soon as the first round was fired by the *Zaire* the shops were closed instantly, and business was suspended for the time. It was quite unnecessary, for our Chinese population are very good and quiet people.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 15th October.

A PROMPT DEFENCE.

At about 9 p.m. last evening four guns were fired from the Monte Fort as a signal for armed defence, and at once all soldiers in the place hurriedly took up their quarters at the proper places previously assigned to them. Men and guns were landed from the gunboat, which had been moored up the harbour during the afternoon in anticipation of danger at the Barrier. The cause of all the trouble appears to be on account of some natives from the market gardens round about the Barrier gate having been arrested during Saturday afternoon for disobedience of orders, and so a mob of the same kind of people gathered near the gate and commenced throwing stones at the guards. The alarm was good, in that it shows how well the authorities have made their arrangements and with what excellent promptness the armed forces can turn out and take up their quarters.

H. E. the Governor, as Commander-in-Chief, was soon out to the scene of the trouble, and after making arrangements satisfied himself the means of defence were as he wished.

It is reported from Paris that the Messageries Maritimes Company is about to open in connection with its regular Chinese service a service between Nagasaki and Chioo, to be extended eventually to Taku. It was expected that this new service would begin on the 14th inst.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 2nd October.

THE GENERALISSIMO.

Count von Waldersee made a most favourable impression on all classes on his arrival last Thursday, and has more than maintained it by his subsequent courtesy and his quickness of seizing and assimilating new ideas and new facts. To civilians the most notable feature of the imposing ceremony of his arrival was his reception of them at the German Consulate, and the tenor of the remarks then made; they were in such marked contrast to those of the Emperor and almost entirely concerned peace. "As an old soldier and the head of an expedition formed of volunteers from the army he regretted that he and they had missed the fighting, but none the less was he come to build up rather than to destroy, and he hoped before he left China to be able to advance their interests by the removal of shackles from their trade, and by establishing peace on a permanent basis. He disclaimed a policy of revenge, but hoped none the less to secure the just punishment of the guilty."

LI HUNG-CHANG—SOME CURIOUS PROCLAMATIONS.

His Excellency has since spent much time in calling and receiving calls, but his staff is already on the job of organizing an expedition to Paoingfu. Among his callers two days ago was Li Hung-chang, who came accompanied by an escort of Russians. The old Viceroy has not gone on to Peking and is still here in quarters adjoining the Viceregal yamen, now in the occupation of the Provisional Government. Li is a bit of a puzzle; either he, or somebody in his name, is issuing proclamations and distributing them in the unoccupied parts of the province; their tone as regards the Boxers is satisfactory enough, but there are curious clauses about the native Christians, which are utterly incompatible with Li's present position and China's humiliation. Christians are commanded to recant and turn renegade or to suffer confiscation of all their goods and death. Surely the Allies will never tolerate such an atrocious notice from a man who is virtually a prisoner, powerless, and suing for peace on our terms. I confess that I was incredulous in this point, but there is abundant proof that such proclamations are posted over the old Tsungtang's signature. In the present condition of Chihli there should be no Viceregal notices current at all without the approval of Count von Waldersee, and notices of this tenor after recent history seem to me an unpardonable crime. It is not for the Chinese officials now to declare their views on Christianity. All such documents should be instantly stopped unless countersigned by the C-in-C.; their circulation is an insidious claim of the Chinaman that he is still in power, while of course he is absolutely powerless.

THE PAOTINGFU EXPEDITION.

A Paotingfu column is being organized and we hope to see it start to-morrow. It is to be joined by a complete and multi-national force from Peking, of which the British constituent is to be 800 rifles, 16th Cavalry, and 4 guns of the 12th Battery R.F.A. The Tientsin force is at present unknown beyond the fact that it will certainly contain British and German, and probably the French Zouaves and Italian Bersaglieri. For once in the last fifty years the splendid German organisation has proved a little at fault; their fine force came to China without transport and now they find, of course, they cannot move: this is the sole present cause in the delay of the column's advance. You will remember that the Peking relief force was stopped by the same thing on the part of the other allies. The advance to the provincial capital is an easier matter, as there is a waterway the whole distance.

A LATE CONVERSION.

I forget if I stated in my last letter to you the sudden conversion of Ting Yang, the bitter anti-foreign Treasurer of the province, who indeed has acted as Viceroy for two months. This is the ruffian who cashiered the magistrates who tried to deal vigorously with the Boxers, and who stood slyly by while the missions were destroyed at Paoing and the missionaries and their converts massacred at the end

of June. He professed himself a great devotee of the "Fox" and set up tablets to Reynard in the temples. He has now begun to take Boxer heads and to pole them, hoping to mitigate foreign wrath. He is one of the men whom repentance should not save. It is a curious fact that up to date not one *Ta-jais* life has been taken, unless we except Viceroy Yu-lu and General Nieh, both killed in action; and yet this is the only way in which the official mind can be impressed. The killing of Boxer peasants, the burning of villages, the winning of battles, and the seizure and looting of great cities from which the precious rascals of officials have fled—all this is labour vain as regards the non-recurrence of trouble. Civic sympathy and the pangs of a wounded patriotism do not appeal to the men who encouraged this orgie of blood and murder. If it is to be once and for ever stopped, the officials responsible must be shot, and if possible denied honourable burial. The latter would profoundly impress posterity.

A NEGLECTED OUTRAGE.

I do not think, by the bye, that the horrid desecration of the Peking foreign cemetery has been noticed in the Southern Press. The Chinese opened and rifled graves and treated the remains with savage indecorum. Even this—the greatest of crimes to a Chinaman—only provokes contempt.

WHAT IS TO COME?

There is still doubt as to the locality of the Empress and the Court. Some say Taiyuanfu, others the Shansi southern border. I hope the fact that the Court physician was hastily summoned from Peking a few days ago does not portend evil to Kwang Hsu. Up to date the Commissioners, who, I have heard, are nominated to enter into negotiation, are Li Hung-chang, Yung Lu, and Ting Yung—the Allies have already once refused the second though they may now accept him; the third ought to be rejected with contumely. It is now universally believed in Peking that the winter garrison is to be reduced to 5,600—eight hundred of each of the powers except Austria. We know that Russia initiated this policy, and on several grounds:—

- (1.)—The indignity of Ministers accredited to the sovereign remaining after that sovereign has attacked them, failed, and fled.
- (2.)—The propriety of making the Chinaman sue for peace at a place of our choice.
- (3.)—The difficulty of army supply.
- (4.)—The greater probability of the Manchu Court returning to the Capital.

WHY NEGOTIATIONS ARE IMPOSSIBLE AT TIENTSIN.

All these are plausible enough but can be easily controverted. We may be absolutely certain that loss of prestige—a matter of vast importance in Asia—will ensue if we leave Peking and make peace in Tientsin: the matter will be completely distorted to the Chinese readers in the *Peking Gazette*. It would not be a bad thing to insert in the new conditions a clause giving the foreigners some control in the office of this ancient paper, and some veto power in the Imperial Proclamation office. Both are often used to reduce us to contempt in provincial eyes.

THE SHANHAIKWAN AFFAIR.

Sir Walter Hillier, I hear, was one of the first men ashore after the little episode of the surrender of the Shanhaikwan forts and camps. The whole affair was of ludicrous simplicity, the forts being evacuated and surrendered to the *Pigmy*. Our account of it, not yet confirmed however, is that an officer and seventeen men did the whole thing in a few minutes. We have also been informed the *Aurora* was close by to back up the little ship, but I doubt it, as she was in Nagasaki a few days ago. I have some reason for thinking the Americans would have done the business, if our folks had not: they are credited even now with the resolution of seizing Ching-wan-tao, 18 miles down the coast, and so securing winter access to Tientsin. The iron pier or jetty giving berths of good draught to ocean-going steamers is all but complete, and the loop line connecting this pier with Lo Au Chai can be finished before the river closes. This simplifies very considerably the question of winter supply to the armies. One watering place, Pei Tai Ho, is within the limits of Ching-wan-tao. With-

out exception every one of the hundred foreign houses has been looted and burned, and even the wreckage afterwards pillaged. The bit of wood and iron-work has gone; nothing remains but bricks and stone. The caretakers are now down here and represent this whole locality as being in paroxysm of guilty fear now that they see their own danger and their bad provision.

TYPHOID IN TIENTSIN.

I grieve to say that intractable scourge of military operations is among us—typhoid. There are many cases in the Service hospitals, and several in the Civil. In the latter there have already been three deaths: one of which was Mr. R. B. de Courcey, a gallant young Irish Cadet in the Customs' Service, who did fine work during the siege of Peking, and who was highly esteemed for his personal qualities and sporting ability.

PUBLIC BENEFACTORS.

The forces here owe much to the management of our quite new Waterworks Company. It was only started last year, and has a plant for the daily supply of 60,000 gallons: it is now giving 90,000 of clean filtered water delivered under pressure, and thus obviating recourse to the death-ridden Peiho fluid in its natural state. Among the greatest benefactors of Tientsin are the volunteers and the Company's officials who have by unremitting labour secured this end.—Mr. H. W. Walker, Mr. R. Oswald and Mr. Catelle.

THE FUTURE.

The political situation and the intentions of the Court are as obscure as ever. There is absolutely no news on the subject. Will Pao-tungfu be burned to the ground? is the chife speculation of the moment.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Sandakan, 5th October.

GOVERNOR HUGH CLIFFORD'S RESIGNATION.

Borneo is on trial. The resignation of H. E. Hugh Clifford, C.M.G., has been accepted by that wonderfully enlightened body, the London Court of Directors of the British North Borneo Co., and the public has risen against them, and cabled a strong protest to the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain. The cable sent was as follows:—"Public Meeting Sandakan called to consider Governor Clifford's resignation unanimously in sympathy with Governor's views as to Railway and General Policy—differences as to which with Directors have caused resignation. Meeting earnestly pray for your intervention prevent country losing so able and conscientious administrator. Suggest appointment Imperial Commissioner investigate. Meeting considers Governor's retirement would be absolutely disastrous to country. Petition following." The object of this cable, which was signed by W. G. Darby, Esq., the Unofficial Member of the Governor's Council, was to delay any action at home pending the arrival of the Petition, and it is not at all unlikely that this object will be achieved—all things considered. It has always been understood here—rightly or wrongly—that the Colonial Office had at least as much to do with the appointment of Mr. Clifford to the Governorship of this country as the Board of Directors, and therefore it is that we have hopes of check-mating the action of the latter. If there is the slightest foundation in our belief, the Colonial Secretary will certainly see to it that Mr. Clifford is not so quickly shelved, simply because he has the courage of his convictions—convictions very largely, if not unanimously, showed by those interested in the country, and resident here—planters, merchants, and others. The Court evidently want their Governor to be more or less an ornament; at least he must not in the slightest oppose their wishes, however absurd they may be, or however prejudicial to the welfare of the country. But the public thinks differently, and having found a man who knows his own mind, and is not afraid to speak out, they intend to make the most strenuous endeavours to keep him, and if he goes they will at least have done everything in their power for the country, and for the Court—if the latter could only see it, which is not to be expected!

MR. W. G. DARBY'S MARRIAGE.

Probably the most popular marriage that has ever taken place in British North Borneo was solemnized on the 29th ult., when Mr. W. G. Darby, manager in Borneo of the China-Borneo Co., Ltd., and Miss Beeston, youngest daughter of the late Capt. Beeston, a former Commandant here, were joined in matrimony by the Rev. W. H. Elton, assisted by the Rev. H. J. Edney, at the English Church here. At the breakfast afterwards H.E. the Governor proposed the health of the happy couple, which was enthusiastically drunk.

SHIPPING NEWS.

The Sabah S. S. Co., Ltd., have decided to build their new steamer here, and a contract has been made with the China-Borneo Co., Ltd., who are to be entrusted with the work. The vessel is expected to take about six months to build.

Captain Wilson, of Hongkong, has bought the Sandakan Launch *Lizzie*, and sails for the Philippines at once, where he hopes to effect a good sale.

The arrivals at Sandakan during September numbered 31, with an aggregate tonnage of 10,944, whilst the sailings were 32, totalling 10,924 tons.

CANTON INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

On Saturday, 13th inst., at noon, the 19th ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Canton Insurance Company, Limited, was held. The Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., presided, and there were also present the Hon. J. J. Keswick, Messrs. D. Gillies, F. Maitland, J. H. Lewis, D. M. Moses (Consulting Committee), G. T. Veitch, (Secretary), R. C. Wilcox, P. Jordan, J. McKie, J. Y. V. Vernon, G. Stewart, J. Geor-mann, B. Byramjee, G. C. Anderson, R. M. Mehta, H. W. Bell, J. C. Peter, Ho Fook, Lo Cheung Shu, E. C. Emmett, R. M. Mehta, Leung Hin Cho, Chan San and Wong Ki Lam. The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your permission, we will take the report and accounts, which have been in your hands since the 1st inst., as read. Before commenting on the report, I am sure you will all join with me in an expression of regret at the loss sustained by the office through the death of our late colleague Mr. Henry Liston Dalrymple, who ever since the office was reconstituted, 19 years ago, and for eight years previously, was a valued member of the Consulting Committee. The final result of the working of the 1899 account, in spite of abnormally heavy losses, compares favourably with that of the two previous years, and we are in a position to propose the payment of a larger dividend to shareholders, also the carrying forward of a substantially increased amount to the current year's account, sufficient, we trust, to provide for outstanding and other claims that may arise under policies attaching to 1899. It is a matter of regret that we are unable to strengthen the reserve fund by replacing to some extent the amount withdrawn from this fund in 1898. We hope this may be possible later on, as I am sure you will all agree with me as to the advisability of doing so whenever the opportunity occurs. So far the current year's working is satisfactory and the position of the office compared with last year to date is distinctly more favourable. Rates generally, I regret, show no sign of improvement. The trouble in the north of China have interfered greatly with the business of our northern agencies, but any loss in premia there has been more than counterbalanced by increases in other directions. It is, of course, impossible for me to forecast what the ultimate result of the year will be; let us hope it will at least equal that of last year. As regards our funds these you will note show an increase after writing \$25,372 74 off the book value of our holding of United States Bonds, which account we hope to still further reduce, as these Bonds are held for a permanent investment and will be repayable at par when they become due. Our surveyors have made their annual report on the various properties mortgaged to the office and have satisfied themselves that, in every case, there is ample margin. I do not know that there is anything more I need say, but, before moving the adoption of the report and ac-

counts. I shall be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may have to ask.

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN moved that the report and accounts be adopted.

Mr. GRESHAM STEWART seconded and the motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. McKIE, seconded by Mr. PAUL JORDAN, the appointments of Messrs. Lewis and Moses to the Consulting Committee were confirmed, and the retiring members of that Committee (Messrs. Chater, Gillies, Maitland, Lewis and Moses) were re-elected.

Messrs. F. Henderson and W. Hutton Potts were re-elected auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—That, gentlemen, concludes the business of the meeting. Dividend warrants will be ready on Monday. I have to thank you for your attendance.

JELEBU MINING & TRADING CO.

The twenty-second ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Jelevu Mining and Trading Company was held at the offices of Messrs. Huttenbach Bros. and Co., General Agents of the Company, Singapore, at noon on the 6th inst.

Mr. J. P. Joaquim, Chairman of Directors, presided, and there were also present:—Messrs. MacDougall, Huttenbach, Sanderon, and Hon. Dr. Lim Boon Keng (directors) Lean, Vogler, Yeo Swee Hee, Kottmann, Durler, &c.

The directors' report and accounts for the half-year ended 25th July, 1900 (a summary of which has already appeared in our columns) was read.

The CHAIRMAN said the report explained fully the position of affairs and he had very little to add to it. To some it might seem unsatisfactory to start again with a debit balance. But as was explained in the report, the Rin lode was still to be considered in its initial stage. He thought it would be agreed that the policy of the directors in writing off amounts for depreciation, although the machinery was quite new, was a sound policy. The reports of the general manager and mine manager embodied in the directors' report spoke for themselves, and he would only supplement them by reading extracts from a letter of the general manager of the 21st September last:—"The battery is now running 18 hours a day, and we are getting large quantities of tin, and the quality is much better. The Glami lode has been opening up very well this month, and we have been able to entirely supply the battery from it. The mine manager is pushing on driving the surface lode so as to give us plenty of 'back' (stone) to keep the battery going in the event of delay from the winding plant. The surface lode in the west level is also very much improved, and is driving on very good stone. The tin dresser expects to get 7 tons this month, and if so that will clear all expenses." Continuing, the Chairman said the expectations of the tin dresser mentioned in the extract just read had been realised, for on Tuesday last he had received a telegram informing him that the September "clean up" had yielded 7 tons. It must be borne in mind that that yield was the result of the work of only 10 heads of stamps; better results would no doubt be obtained as soon as the extra 10 heads were erected and in working order. The working of the 10 extra heads might very soon be expected. Another report had been received this morning from the general manager intimating that the ore would give as good, if not better, assay than the last two shipments. The last two were 59 per cent. and 55½ per cent. respectively. The report also dealt with the number of feet now in view in each lode. It would be seen from the letters of the managers that brighter prospects were in store for the company, and the directors hoped that the company would soon pay a dividend. He would be pleased to answer any questions.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts. This was carried.

Mr. MacDougall was re-elected a director, and Messrs. Gann auditors, the meeting then closing.

Cattle-shippers at Brisbane are sending large consignments of bullocks and sheep to Taku. The last steamer to leave for China was the *Maori King* on the 24th ult.

THE NORTH CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the Ninth Ordinary General Meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Offices of the Company, Hankow Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 23rd October, at 4 p.m.:—

The directors beg to submit for the information of the shareholders the annexed duly audited statement of the Company's accounts to the 30th June, 1900.

An alteration has been made in the method of stating these, which in their present form show the figures for the whole of 1899, and this method, which it is thought will prove more acceptable to the shareholders, will be adopted in the future.

1899.—An interim dividend of 5 per cent, amounting of tael 46,153.84, was declared on the 20th April last, and after deducting this from the balance of the working account, there remains a sum of tael 162,980.71, which the directors recommend should be appropriated in the following manner:—

A final dividend of 5 per cent on paid-up capital,

And a bonus of 10 per cent. upon contributory premiums.

The balance to be retained to meet further liabilities.

The proposition made at the last general meeting to place the surplus accruing from the sale of the property, 10, Hankow Road, less expenses, to the credit of the reserve fund, was duly carried into effect, and the fund now stands at tael 260,000.

1900.—The balance of working account to the 30th June amount to tael 258, 08.00, which compares favourably with the corresponding period of the previous year.

DIRECTORS.

It is with the greatest regret that the directors record the death of Mr. David Brand, who for over twenty years had been intimately associated with the direction of the company's affairs, both in Shanghai and in London.

Messrs. E. Davis, H. R. Hearn and W. D. Little having resigned their seats on leaving for home, and Mr. Cecil Holliday having retired, Messrs. J. N. Jameson, G. A. Matthews and W. H. Poate, upon the invitation of the directors, have joined the board.

The directors retire in accordance with the regulations of the company, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The Accounts have been audited by Messrs. White and Wrightson, and their term of office having expired, they again tender their services to the shareholders.

By order of the Court of Directors,
WM. GEO. BAYNE,
Secretary.

Shanghai, 9th October, 1900.

Dr.			
To capital account:—	Tael.	£	s. d.
5,000 shares at £25=			
£125,000.00 at 2s. 10d.	882,352.94	125,000	0 0
To reserve fund—			
as at 30th June, Tael.			
1899	250,000.00		
Less—Transferred to 1893			
account.....	60,000.00		
	190,000.00		
Add—Transferred from property account.....	70,000.00		
	260,000.00	36,833	6 8
To working account, 1899:—			
Amount brought forward from below.....	200,134.55		
Deduct—Interim share dividend ..	46,153.84		
	162,980.71	23,063	18 8
To working account, 1900:—			
Amount brought forward from below	258,008.00	36,551	2 8
To liability account for 1898 and previous years.....	23,713.46	3,359	8 2
To dividends uncollected ..	2,433.63	344	15 4

(Ex 2/10 per tael) Tael 1,589,483.76 £225,177 11 6

Cr.			
	Tael.	£	s. d.
By cash on current and deposit accounts in Shanghai	142,875.89	20,433	14 1
By Chinese Imperial Government loan of 1896 (E. issue)	19,250.00	2,727	1 8
By Shanghai Municipal loan	64,000.00	9,066	13 2
By Shanghai Land Investment Co.'s 8 per cent. debentures	65,400.00	9,205	0 0
By Shanghai Waterworks Co.'s 6 per cent. debentures	20,350.00	2,882	18 4
By Shanghai Waterworks Co.'s 5 per cent. debentures	9,600.00	1,360	0 0
By Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co.'s 6 per cent. debentures	5,250.00	743	15 0
By Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co., Limited	200.00	28	6 8
By mortgages on property in Shanghai	53,000.00	7,508	6 8
By London freehold premises	270,408.63	38,807	8 7
By London branch—Balance, viz:—			
Cash at bankers £6,827 16 3			
National War loan 2½ per cent.....	652 10 0		
India Government securities	18,994 6 11		
Colonial Govt. bonds	27,260 13 4		
Chinese Govt. 5 per cent. loan of 1896	11,394 14 7		
Chinese Imperial railway 5 per cent. loan of 1899	4,790 0 0		
Japanese Govt. 4 per cent. loan of 1899	8,745 2 6		
English railway securities	5,145 7 7		
Indian railway securities	17,206 4 0		
Canadian Pacific railway 5 per cent. mort. debentures.....	5,712 10 0		
Furniture accounts—London and Manchester	1,355 0 0		
Premium outstanding, bills receivable, policy stamps and drafts, in course of collection	8,299 10 0		
	£115,838 14 8		
Less—Due to sundries	1,836 9 9		
	801,509.97	113,547	4 14
By Hongkong branch—Balance	42,643.77	6,041	4 0
By Yokohama branch—Balance	20,439.54	2,835	12 0
By Singapore branch—Balance	26,631.42	3,779	17 4
By furniture at head office, Hongkong, Yokohama, and Singapore branches	2,432.63	351	14 2
By sundry debtors—Premium, etc. outstanding at head office and agencies	45,591.63		
Loss—Due to sundries	3,189.65		
	£2,402 18 6	6,004	15 0
	Tael 1,589,483.76	£225,177 11 6	

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1899.

Dr.			
	Tael.	£	s. d.
To net premium, 1st Jan. to 31st Dec., 1899	893,496.94		
To interest	52,084.97		
To transfer and certificate fees	73.00		
To profit on investment realized	8,671.59		
To exchange account	7,944.76		
	Tael 747,878.23		

Cr.			
	Tael.	£	s. d.
By agency commissions, 1st January to 31st December, 1899	14,236.74		
By charges at head office, branches and agencies	132,046.45		
By directors' and auditors' fees	4,000.00		
By income tax	2,538.75		
By depreciation furniture account	363.12		
By losses and claims	284,708.91		
By balance carried forward	200,134.55		
	Tael 747,878.23		

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1900.

Dr.			
	Tael.	£	s. d.
To net premium, 1st Jan. to 30th June, 1900	874,336.11		
To interest	57,231.82		
To transfer and certificate fees	21.00		

Tael 931,588.93

Cr.	Tails.
By agency commissions, 1st January to 30th June, 1900	6,337.05
By charges at head office, branches and agencies	64,179.13
By directors' and auditors' fees	2,450.00
By income tax	620.72
By exchange account	5,931.98
By losses and claims	64,543.06
By balance carried forward	258,008.00
	Tails 402,069.94

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

"A" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The seventh shoot of the present series took place at Kowloon on the 14th inst.

Sergeant-Major Lammert won the No. 1 cup for the third time and Gunner Cox won the No. 2 cup for the second time.

The following were the best scores.—

	200	500	600	H'cap.	Total
Sgt.-Mjr. Lammert	22	29	23	so.	86
Gunner P. A. Cox	26	23	23	7	79
Gunner R. C. Edward	21	19	18	21	79
Gunner J. G. Smith	23	23	21	6	73
Corporal W. King	25	16	22	10	73
Gunner Hursthouse	25	18	16	13	72

CRICKET.

KOWLOON v. ALL COMERS.

Kowloon made its debut in cricket in this match, but, being out of practice, had to admit defeat. On a wicket that were better than expected, Langhorne took in Ward to open the batting against Kowloon, and the two ran 153 up before Ward was well taken at squareleg from a stroke that should have given him his century. At first Langhorne got ahead, but Ward gained on him rapidly later on and raised his score from 60 to 93 by ten strokes in which were six fours and two sixes. He played a dashing innings, giving only half a chance to wide mid-on who would have enhanced his reputation by making the catch. He wishes to be told next time he is near a century in order that he may not again miss it by two for want of a hint. In the hour and a half before tiffin, as many as 170 runs were scored. Too much credit was given to the diminutive ground, we think, for at no other period was anything like this rate of run-getting attained. After tiffin Langhorne continued to play a steady but punishing game and had the satisfaction of seeing 200 up before he left. Mackenzie, who should have been tried much earlier, bowled with much success after the interval and ended up with the excellent analysis of 6 wickets for 36 runs. Woodcock, Salter and Wood (who hit a six) were the only others who reached double figures. Burke, Hanson, and Krickenbeek were noticeable in the field and Wall was at home behind the wickets. When Nicholson went on a second time, he took 3 wickets for 31 runs: we expect to see him have a larger share of the wickets later on in the season. When Kowloon batted, Mackenzie, Ainslie, Nicholson, Tregear and Lamb ran into double figures. On Saturday's form Mackenzie seems to have advanced in batting and bowling and fielding. Ainslie, who bats in good style, was just becoming at home to the bowling when a smart catch at the wickets got rid of him. He will considerably strengthen the military ranks. Tregear played a very useful innings, and, with Lamb, made the biggest stand on his side. In bowling, Strong, who appears to be in good form, with 3 for 7, and Langhorne, with 2 for 11, were the most successful. The ground fielding was fairly good, but more than one catch did not come off. Just a word about the season. It was started well and there is no reason why it should not go on just as well. The Indian contingent has introduced plenty of new blood and possesses several keen players, and it is keenness which is the great desideratum. From what we have seen, we think that the civilians will have to fight hard to be in the running with the Garrison and the United Services, but if all the old hands will renew their youth, and the young bloods will keep their eyes and hands in, there is no knowing what may happen. So let us have plenty of enthusiasm, please.

Appended are the scores and analysis:—

ALL COMERS

A. G. Ward, c Burke, b Ainslie	88
Capt. Langhorne, R.A., c Krickenbeek, b Mackenzie	74
G. A. Woodcock, b Mackenzie	16
Lieut. Strong, c Hanson, b Mackenzie	9
Rev. J. A. Dexter, R.N., b Mackenzie	0
D. Salter, b Mackenzie	16
J. Lee, b Nicholson	0
A. R. Lowe, b Nicholson	7
D. Wood, b Nicholson	24
Rev. E. H. Good, R.N., not out	4
C. H. P. Hay, c Ainslie, b Mackenzie	4
Extras	6

258

KOWLOON.

First Innings.	Second Innings
Lt. Krickenbeek, c C. H. P.	
Hay, b Good	0
Lt. Burke, c Lowe, b Lee	4
Capt. Wall, b Good	1 not out
A. Mackenzie, b Lowe	22
Capt. Ainslie, c Dexter, b Good	14 not out
Lt. Nicholson, c Wood, b Langhorne	15
B. E. Hanson, b Langhorne	3
Lt. Tregear, c Woodcock, b Strong	23
Lt. Lamb, c Lee, b Strong	12
Capt. Renton, b Strong	0
Lt. Baker, not out	7
Extras	10

Total 111 Total (3 wickets) 38

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

ALL COMERS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Nicholson	16	1	79	3
Krickenbeek	4	—	20	—
Tregear	6	—	46	—
Ainslie	11	—	54	1
Renton	2	1	17	—
Mackenzie	13.2	1	36	6

KOWLOON.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Strong	5	1	7	3
Lee	6	—	16	1
Langhorne	7	1	11	2
Good	8	—	35	3
Lowe	9	1	26	1
Salter	4	2	6	—

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

QUARTERLY MEETING.—MCEWEN CUP, BOGEY CUP, AND POOL.

Fine weather favoured the meeting days of the competition, with the result that the number of entrants was above the average. It is gratifying to notice that the scratch men were on this occasion able to hold their own against the long handicap players. The following were the scores returned:—

MCEWEN CUP AND SILVER MEDAL

Mr. T. S. Forrest	82	0	82
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	83	0	83
Capt. H. B. des Vœux	91	8	83
Mr. H. W. Robertson	98	12	86
Mr. J. F. Noble	104	16	88
Lt. R. E. E. Krickenbeek	107	14	93

(14 entries.)

BOGEY CUP.

Mr. T. S. Forrest	2	down.
Mr. E. A. Ram	5	"
Mr. H. W. Robertson	5	"
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	10	"
Capt. H. B. des Vœux	10	"
Lieut. Krickenbeek	10	"

(16 entries.)

POOL.

Mr. T. S. Forrest	82	0	82
Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	83	0	83
Mr. J. F. Noble	104	16	88
Lt. R. E. E. Krickenbeek	107	14	93
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	98	4	94
Capt. H. B. des Vœux	106	8	98

(17 entries.)

Referring to impending changes in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Staff at Colombo, the Ceylon Observer says: "On Mr. Wilson's arrival here, Mr. J. D. Taylor will leave for the Far East. Mr. Taylor's departure will be regretted by those who have had experience of his management of the local branch." It has been decided, we hear locally, that Mr. Taylor will revert to his former appointment as accountant of the Singapore Branch of the Bank.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

There was again a large attendance at the range on Saturday afternoon, 13th inst. 21 members taking part in the Spoon Competition, and some good scores were made in spite of the failing light at the 600 yards range. Scores:—

	200	500	600	H'cap.	Total
* Mr. Porand	31	33	27	10	101
* C. S. Mjr. Wallace	33	33	33	—	99
* Mr. W. Stewart	33	31	33	—	97
* Inspt. McLennan	32	33	31	—	96
* Mr. Marshall	32	33	30	—	95
Capt. Carlyle, A.O.D.	31	35	29	—	95
Mr. Baldwin	31	33	30	—	94
Mr. G. P. Lammert	32	33	28	—	93
Mr. J. Pidgeon	31	31	30	30	92
Mr. D. Steel	32	32	25	—	89
Mr. Stackwood	31	28	26	3	85

* Winners of spoons.

WATER RETURN.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST OCTOBER.

LEVEL.

1899. 1900.

above overflow. below overflow.

Tytam	2 ft. 6 in.	1 ft. 0½ in.
Pokfulam	0 ft. 6 in.	0 ft. 4 in.
Wongnaicheong	0 ft. 2 in.	26 ft. 6 in.

STORAGE GALLONS.

1899. 1900.

Tytam	407,000,000	393,770,000
Pokfulam	67,080,000	65,280,000
Wongnaicheong	80,000,000	5,849,000

Total 504,080,000 464,899,000

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.

1899. 1900.

Consumption	114,346,000	122,417,000 gallons
Estimated population	202,500	208,000

Consumption per head per day 18.8 19.6 gallons

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.

1899. 1900.

Consumption	9,135,000	8,540,000 gallons
Estimated population	27,300	28,500

Consumption per head per day 11.1 10 gallons

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

R. D. ORMSBY,
Water Authority.

CONSULAR REPORTS.

NEUCHWANG.

The year 1899 was an extremely prosperous one for the trade of Newchwang, says Mr. Consul Fulford, not only were the figures the highest on record, but they showed an advance of above 50 per cent. on those of 1898, which were greatly in excess of previous years. The net value of the trade of the past year was £7,253,643, as compared with £4,634,474 in 1898, and £3,926,344 in 1897. These figures do not include the import and export of treasure, which in 1889 amounted to £1,452,662 and £700,510 respectively. This result is all the more satisfactory as there were during the year several incidents which must have had an adverse influence upon trade. Among these may be mentioned a dispute between the southern and northern merchants as to the terms of trade payments, strikes among cargo boats and bean mill coolies, and the outbreak of plague. The increase may be attributed principally to an excellent bean crop in 1898, and to high prices for this commodity ruling in Japan, to which country a large proportion of the export goes. But the general prosperity of the district no doubt contributed to the rise, the excess of imports of goods and treasure over exports being very marked. Railway construction and the consequent influx of coolies and capital have also added to the consuming powers of the neighbourhood.

The lines were not in working order during the year, so that the increase cannot be attributed to any improved facilities of transport. We look

for that in the near future, and it is meanwhile satisfactory to note the hopeful prospects for their success. The figures above given were appreciably added to by the importation of railway material to the value of £502,773, and a considerable portion of the imported treasure was doubtless for payment of the large number of Chinese coolies employed by the Russo-Chinese line.

The net import of foreign goods was £3,266,390, against £1,511,067 in 1898. Even after deducting the 500,000 for railway plant, the increase is still extraordinary. The principal items are opium, £109,490; cotton goods, £2,033,700; woollen goods, £50,690; metals, £119,536; and sundries, £945,033. In the large increase of cotton goods import England did not share, English yarn, jean, and sheetings all diminishing. Japanese goods, on the contrary, increased greatly. Mr. Fulford says:—The growth of the direct trade of the port with Japan is remarkable, both in exports to and imports from Japan. The figures for the latter were £258,600 in 1899, against £84,555 in 1898.

The total net exports in 1899 were of the value of £3,092,362, against £2,462,611 in 1898. Of this amount £1,303,685 went to foreign countries and £1,788,677 to other Chinese ports. Of the exports to foreign countries, goods to the value of £1,213,769 went to Japan.

The total tonnage entered and cleared at Newchwang in 1899 was 1,006,418 tons, made up of 44 sailing vessels of 25,496 tons and 1,120 steamers of 980,922 tons. The progress made by the Japanese flag in the previous year was fully maintained, and for the first time in the history of the port the Japanese flag takes the lead in the number of vessels. In tonnage the British flag is ahead. The increase of Japanese vessels is the natural result of the great increase of direct trade with Japan, and determination of the Japanese to be their own carriers. The trade of Japan with Manchuria is assuming very large proportions; nearly one-half of the exports, principally beancakes and beans, from Newchwang going to that country, while Japanese manufactured goods are finding a readier market in Newchwang.

The most noteworthy events in connection with the port in 1899, continues Mr. Fulford, were the progress of the two railways; the one from Tientsin being called the Chinese Railway and the Russo-Chinese line called the Chinese Eastern Railway. The Chinese Railway is now in working communication with Ying-tzu (the real name of the port of Newchwang, a town distant 30 miles to the north-east). Regular time-table traffic at present ceases at Chin-chow-fu, 286 miles from Tientsin.

As regards the Russo-Chinese line the rate of progress anticipated in the last report has not been realised for several reasons. Owing to the outbreak of plague during the latter half of the year and the attempt to keep the Chinese coolies engaged on the railway within the railway lines, considerable discontent prevailed, and thousands left the works, causing still greater derangement and delay in the work of construction. Nevertheless the line is now practically open for construction trains between Ta-lien-wan and Moukden, with a continuation to Port Arthur, and a branch line from Ta-Shih-Chiao on the main line to this port. During last year a great quantity of plant and material was landed at the port and conveyed by this branch to the main line, but the Russian steamers are now diverted to Port Arthur, and the material conveyed up the main line. It was desired to run the main line close to Moukden, but on account of strenuous Chinese official objections, the route followed is to the west of that town, the nearest point being 10 miles from the city. The terminus of the Chinese line is at Hsin-Min-Ting, 40 miles to the west of Moukden, on the west side of the Liao river.

Of the coal-mines at 10 miles east of Yen-tai on the Russo-Chinese line, Mr. Fulford says:—

The coal field is large, but at least five years must elapse before it can be properly opened out, or any great surplus be available for export. It is, however, clear that eventually this port (Dai-ny), and Port Arthur will be closed to Tientsin and Japanese coal. The coal, though a good steam coal, is somewhat dirty, but this will be remedied to a great extent by the use of cleaning plant already ordered.

Inquiries were made during the year as to

the possibility of steam-launch navigation, under the Inland Waters Rules, on the Liao River. The conclusion arrived at by those interested was that the navigable waterways of the Liao River were so limited, and would be so completely commanded by the Russo-Chinese Railway, which will run practically parallel with them, and have the advantage of continuous transit from more distant centres of trade, that it was not worth the investment of the necessary capital and the inevitable struggle with vested interests for the attainment of what was likely to be a short-lived advantage.

It may be said in conclusion that the trade of the port waits with mingled hope and apprehension to see the effect which the completion of the railways will have upon the business of the district. Such facilities of transport cannot fail to increase the volume of trade, but it remains to be seen if they will divert it into other channels.

KIUKIANG.

This Yangtze port has shared in the unprecedented development of China trade in 1899. It is gratifying to note, says Mr. Consul H. F. Brady, who writes the report for last year, that there has been an advance of considerably over 1,000,000 taels on the figures for the previous year—which were themselves the record for the port. The net volume of trade was 18,562,941, divided as follows:—foreign imports 7,924,471 tls., native imports 1,584,362 tls., exports 9,054,108 tls.

Among Imports the main increases were in sheetings (English, Bombay, and American), cottons, cottonyarn, lead, dyes, and matches, both European and Japanese, Indian opium increased 345 piculs on 1898; the result without doubt, says Mr. Brady, of the good harvest of last year. The increase is unlikely to be maintained, as the drug costs too much for the ordinary smoker. Russian kerosene increased about 90 per cent., American was steady, but Sumatran showed a large falling off. Kerosene now figures as one of the most important items in the customs returns. Sugar, the only import handled by foreign firms in Kiukiang, is the product of the Hongkong refineries. The trade is developing but liable to fluctuations, according as the local crop is good or bad.

Nearly all the articles composing the exports show a marked improvement, due to the good harvest which was reaped throughout the province. There were no floods, and the people were able to cultivate the low-lying lands adjacent to the banks of the rivers, which in many years are devastated by inundations before the crops can be gathered; hence such articles as beans and peas, ground nuts, hemp, indigo and sesamum seeds, were all the excess of local requirements and were exported in large quantities. Chinaware, which is the special industry of Kiangsi, continues to increase in quantity, though it cannot be said that the ware is improving. Little care and less skill is bestowed on the manufacture, and now that crude aniline dyes are employed in its decoration it is even depreciating in the eyes of the Chinese.

Of tea Mr. Brady says:—"The past season does not appear to have been a very profitable or prosperous one for foreign buyers, many of the shipments having met with a poor reception on the London market; and native dealers also seem to have been badly hit. The returns show an improvement on the two preceding years, but a considerable shrinkage is anticipated in the coming season."

Native imports are of little interest to the foreign merchant and call for no remark.

The number of vessels entered and cleared during the year was 3,389, of a total tonnage of 2,866,196 tons, but the actual number of vessels which were employed as regular traders to the port amounted to only 21, of which 13 were British, 5 Chinese and 3 Japanese. The latter, however, having no wharf accommodation, confined their attention to the native passenger traffic, and did not participate in the carrying trade, which may be said to have been carried on exclusively under the Chinese and British flags, the former being interested therein to the extent of nearly 5,700,000 taels (£855,000) and the latter to 12,800,000 taels (£1,920,000).

The British flag is still unrepresented on the Inland Waters. A British firm attempted to engage in the trade by means of a chartered

launch, but after a few trips the vessel was withdrawn, and since then the Chinese companies have had the field to themselves.

Of the trade by the Poyang Lake and to Nanchang Mr. Brady says:—"Under the present Rules for Inland Water Navigation, it is doubtful if steamers would find it profitable to engage in the trade—two difficulties lie in the way, the opposition which the advent of steamers under a foreign flag would be sure to give rise to on the part of the Provincial Government, and the antagonism of the native junk masters; the impossibility, too, of opening a firm or even a warehouse for the storing of cargo would also militate against the success of the undertaking."

A vigorous attempt was made during the year to introduce the Chinkiang system of onward transit trade in Kiukiang, but it met with such determined opposition in the part of *lekin* administration, whose interests were threatened, that it met with little success. The officials hold that foreigners have only the privilege of bringing down their own goods from the interior under pass, and they deny that the Treaty gives them the right to extend this protection to goods the property of their native clients. This has been the practice for many years at Chinkiang, and though it undoubtedly stimulates the export trade it cannot be denied that it inflicts serious loss on the Provincial Exchequer, all goods, whether foreign or Chinese owned, escaping *lekin en route* to the port of shipment, and being subject only to the payment of the 2½ per cent. transit duty to the Imperial Customs.

HONGKONG.

Since last week's issue there have been four cases of plague, all fatal. The figures for the year are now:—1,079 cases, 1,021 deaths.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for last week shows that 446 non-Chinese and 137 Chinese visited the former, 208 non-Chinese and 2,151 Chinese the latter institution.

As a Chinese boy was going an errand on the 15th inst. a man struck him in the face and took some money from him. Fortunately the man was caught, and on the 17th inst. he was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour.

Early on the 17th inst. a district watchman saw a Chinaman near the Ching Hing Theatre dragging a couple of wooden spars along. He took him to the Police Station and enquiries disclosed the fact that the man was taking away something which did not belong to him, for doing which he has been sentenced to three weeks' hard labour.

A number of gamblers caught playing *potze* by Inspector Warnock and a number of police at No. 25, Elgin Street, were fined on the 12th inst. two \$15 for keeping a gaming house and the rest \$3 each for gambling. Two of the men were without queues. So anxious were they to escape from the clutches of the police that they cut their queues, which were held by a constable. They were, however, captured again almost immediately.

On the 11th instant P. C. Wiltshire was on duty near Kennedytown in one of the police pinnaces when he saw a cargo boat laden with goats and sheep, there being 30 of the former and 45 of the latter. There was no room for them all to stand, and consequently some of them were lying down while others were standing upon them. Ng Hop, the master of the boat, appeared before Mr. Hazeland on the 12th inst. and was fined \$10, or 14 days, for cruelty to animals.

The Government purpose erecting new police quarters at West Point. Temporary accommodation is to be provided for them in a mat-shed which is being put up on the Praya Reclamation. On the 13th inst. Inspector Baker and a Chinese detective visited the mat-shed and found some men sleeping there. Two escaped through the window and two were arrested. One of the latter had 12 cents in his pocket and the other nothing. They told the Inspector they had nowhere to go. When taken before Mr. Hazeland on the 15th inst. one of the defendants said he was looking for his father, who he was told had gone over to Yau-mati. They were both sent to prison for 14 days, as rogues and vagabonds.

Apart from the four fatal plague cases last week (three of which were in the City of Victoria) there were reported only two cases of communicable disease in the Colony, both of diphtheria and both in the City of Victoria.

Within the last few days the Inspectors and Sergeants in charge of the different police stations have been seen going towards the Central Police Station with small bottles in their hands, the bottles bearing the label "Mosquitos" from Aberdeen, or wherever they may have been brought from. It seems that the specimens are to be examined by Dr. Thomson, the Gael doctor, who wishes to examine them with a view to investigating the theory as to the transmission of disease by mosquitos.

An Indian named Ahmed who appeared at the Magistracy on the 17th inst. seems to be a terror to those living in the same house as himself. At any rate a European seaman out of employ told Mr. Hazeland, that the defendant chased him round his room and acted in so threatening a manner that he went to the Police Station and reported the matter. Sergeant Grant was sent back with the complainant. Before they could reach the house they met the defendant in the street. As soon as he caught sight of the complainant the defendant took off his coat and wanted to fight. For being disorderly in a public street the man was bound over to keep the peace.

At about half-past five on the 11th inst. a cockloft at a tea-drying shop in Wilmer Street, West Point, collapsed and two women were killed. Some 20 persons were employed in the place picking tea for export. The cockloft, on account of the heavy weight upon it, came down with a crash and several women were buried in the debris. Inspector Baker, Sergeant Ritchie, and others were soon on the spot. Sergeant Ritchie succeeded in extricating one of the women, but it was found that she was already dead, she and another having evidently been suffocated. Others had been got out by the shop-people, and were apparently not much worse for their experience.

On the 2nd inst. a woman named Chu Chat, residing at Hok Un, near Kowloon City, reported to the police that on returning to her house at ten o'clock that morning after an absence of two hours she found the staple of the door prised open and her boxes ransacked, fourteen pieces of clothing and a clock having been taken. Enquiries were set on foot by the police and on the 11th inst. a man named Cheung Tuk was arrested in Bulkeley Street, Hunghom, wearing a pair of trousers since identified as part of the stolen property. At the Magistracy on the 12th inst. a barber recognised the defendant as the man whom he had seen coming from the complainant's house with a bundle of clothing on the 2nd inst. The man was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

Last week we reported that as the result of a fight between rickshaw coolies and fishmongers at Wanchai two fishmongers had been arrested for cutting and wounding a rickshaw coolie and 33 rickshaw coolies arrested for fighting. The cases came before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on the 16th inst. The case against the two fishmongers was heard first. Mr. Looker appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Brutton for one of the defendants. Mr. Looker said that these two men were fishmongers at Wanchai, and the other 33 were coolies living in a coolie house close by. One of these coolies went to market to buy some fish. He bought a fish and took it home. When he came to weigh it he found that it was not the proper weight. He accordingly returned to the market and an altercation took place between him and the fishmonger. From words they came to blows. The fishmonger called upon his tradesmen to assist him. They responded to the call and began to stone the coolie and also some other coolies who had rallied round him. The result of the fight was that the coolie in question was struck on the head by a stone. He did not know whether he would be able to prove that these two men actually threw the stone which caused the injury, but there was no doubt that they were throwing stones, and he submitted that under the circumstances they were more or less guilty of the offence with which they were charged.—The evidence was then proceeded with and the further hearing was adjourned.

F. H. Woolford, a seaman on board the *Monterey*, was yesterday fined \$5, or seven days, for being disorderly in Ship Street the previous evening, and \$10, or 14 days, for assaulting a Chinese woman.

Chui Wan Kwai is the manager of godowns Nos. 20 and 25, Praya West, and he was fined on the 16th inst. for lighting fires in Collinson Street and Beach Street, on each side of his godown. There was a stock of timber near one of the fires, and had there been any wind blowing the timber would in all probability have been ignited and the godowns endangered.

Wong Sai Ho, master of the junk No. 184, was fined \$10 on the 16th inst. for neglecting to cover with a serviceable tarpaulin some kerosene which he had on board. P. C. Foden visited the defendant's junk when she was lying near the Standard Oil Company's godown and found 200 or 300 cases of kerosene on board without any cover or protection whatever.

On the 16th inst. Mr. Hazeland lectured a junk master for anchoring in the southern fairway and fined him \$5. His Worship said he was always impressing on these junk people the danger of anchoring in the southern fairway. If a steamer had run the defendant down he would not have been able to recover a single cash as compensation. He ought to be more careful.

Fung Fun, a carpenter employed at the Cement Works, when into the Cheung pawn-shop at Hunghom on Thursday to pawn a pair of shoes. When asked for his name and address he was indignant, and began to make such a noise that a large crowd collected round the door of the shop. An Indian constable appeared on the scene and took him into custody, with the result that he is now doing time in Victoria goal.

On Wednesday morning a Chinaman who was engaged with other coolies in carrying coal from the junks to the coal heap near the torpedo depot was observed by P. C. Morgan to throw some of the coal in the water when near the side. He arrested him and found that there were about two hundredweight of coal in the water. This is a common practice among the coal coolies. They throw the coal into the water and dredge for it afterwards. Yesterday the coolie was sent to prison for a month.

At the Harbour Office yesterday, before the Hon. Basil Taylor, an enquiry was held into the circumstances connected with a charge of the neglect of duty against Pang Kau, master of the steam launch *Guiding Star*. It was stated that as the *Guiding Star* was leaving Pedder's Wharf a yellow launch was steaming westwards. The *Guiding Star* did not give way but forced the yellow launch close upon the bows of another steamer, starboarding helm and following close along side; then ported and passed under stern. The defendant acknowledged the truth of this, and his certificate was ordered to be suspended for two months.

At the Harbour Office yesterday, before the Hon. Basil Taylor, an enquiry was held into the circumstances connected with the collision between the steam launch *Evening Star* and cargo boat No. 347.—The master of the cargo boat said: About 7 p.m. on Friday, the 12th inst. I left the Harbour Master's Wharf empty to go to Wanchai. When I was close to Butterfield and Swire's East buoy I saw the *Evening Star* on the starboard quarter standing straight towards me. I hailed him to stop, but he kept straight on and collided with my starboard quarter, capsizing the cargo boat and tearing the sail. The launch did not attempt to keep out of my way, nor did he, so far as I could see, reverse his engines. I had a light lit five feet above the port quarter.—The second master of the *Evening Star* said: I was steering the *Evening Star* at the time of the collision at about 7 p.m. I left Pedder's Wharf for Kowloon, and when about half way across the harbour I saw the cargo boat about one and a half boat's length away showing no light, so far as I could see. I blew my whistle and went astern with engines, but did not try to go under her stern, being afraid of colliding with another launch which I saw the other side of the cargo boat. I struck the cargo boat on the starboard side with my port bow. She did not capsize, but was only carried away to port bodily.—The certificate of the master of the *Evening Star* was suspended for two months.

The match on Thursday evening between the Hongkong Hockey Club and the officers of the Royal Artillery was drawn at 2 goals all. The game was fast and even, and the R.A. only scored their equalising goal within a few minutes of time.

Early on the 15th inst. a fire broke out in a silk shop at 58, Jervois Street. The Fire Brigade was soon on the spot, the station being close at hand, but, notwithstanding their celerity, by the time they arrived on the scene the flames had got good hold. The whole of the basement was burned out, a considerable quantity of silk goods being destroyed. The fire also spread to the first and second floors, which are entered from Queen's Road, and their contents were destroyed. The premises are insured in the Union Fire Insurance Office for \$12,000. The cause of the outbreak is not yet known. The master of the shop left early on Friday evening leaving some folks and an accountant on the premises, who are being interrogated by the police.

Two firemen from the British steamer *Elm Branch* appeared before Mr. Hazeland on the 17th inst., one of them charging the other with assaulting him with a knife. The complainant was a Japanese calling himself Charles Tokey, and the defendant an unprepossessing Mexican named Manuel Vilchean. The complainant's story was that at about eight o'clock on Tuesday morning he was having breakfast with the defendant, and being without sugar he asked the defendant if he would please let him have some of his. The defendant refused, and the complainant then got up and fetched some bread. When he returned the defendant got up and struck him in the face with his fist. Then the defendant went to his bunk and came back with a knife, with which he cut him on the face and side. The cuts, however, were but slight. A European fireman corroborated. The Captain of the steamer gave the defendant a bad character, saying that this was not the first time he had used a knife. The defendant's story was that he was at breakfast with the complainant when the latter took some of his sugar, and when he remonstrated with him he said he should take it. They then struggled. The defendant had in his hand a knife with which he had been cutting bread, and in the struggle the complainant got cut. His Worship thought one was as bad as the other and gave the defendant the option of a fine, he being ordered to pay \$10, or 14 days.

The other day a charge was brought against Pang San, boatswain on the steamer *Suisang*, who was charged with being in possession of prepared opium without a permit. Among those who gave evidence was Sergeant Garrod. The Sergeant said he visited the *Suisang* with eight excise officers. He informed the mate that he was going to search the ship and passengers for opium. He then asked an excise officer where they intended to search first, and he answered "The boatswain's room." He accompanied the excise officers there and found in the room a man who said he was the quartermaster. He told him to fetch the boatswain, and he did so. When the boatswain arrived he told him he was going to search his boxes and bunk, which he proceeded to do in his presence, the only remark he made being "All right, go on." They found four tins of prepared opium—about 20 taels—underneath the man's box, and in consequence he was arrested. The Magistrate, however, was not satisfied as to the guilt of the boatswain, who said he did not know that the opium was in his room and that it must have been placed there by someone who had a grudge against him. He accordingly discharged the man. At the Magistracy on the 17th inst. Mr. Gedge applied for a rehearing. He contended that the mere fact of the man being found in possession of the opium was sufficient to convict him, unless he could show that there was good reason to believe that he did not know that the opium was there, and that it had been placed there by somebody else. Ultimately His Worship decided to grant the re-hearing provided that it was understood that the informer would be called to give evidence. This suggestion was agreed to. The steamer, however, will not be in the harbour until about three weeks hence. His Worship observed that the informer who was brought before him the other day in another case broke down. He contradicted himself in every line.

On the 16th inst. the Portuguese cruiser *Adamastor* and the other warships in the Harbour were dressed and a salute was fired at noon in honour of the birthday of the Queen Dowager of Portugal, Donna Maria Pia, mother of the present King.

A man, of the name of C. Worthington, who is employed in the Customs, made himself so obnoxious to the acting manager and the barmaid at Thomas's Grill Rooms on the 13th inst. that they were obliged to give him into the custody of an Indian constable. On the way to the station he assaulted the constable, and for this offence was fined \$10. The other charge was withdrawn.

At the offices of the Public Works Department on the 15th inst. Mr. G. J. W. King offered for competition Shaukiwan Inland Lot No. 395. The upset was \$675. Mr. Chun King was the purchaser for \$980. The lot contains 2,250 square feet. Inland Lot Nos. 1,617, 1,618, 1,619, and 1,620, situate in Shaukiwan Road, were bought by the Hon. R. M. Gray for \$13,000, the upset being \$6,000.

Albert Smith, store-keeper, appeared at the Magistracy on the 12th inst. charged with behaving in a disorderly manner in a public street while drunk and damaging a chair, the property of Lo Mok, chairmaker, 7, Sun Street. The evidence was to the effect that the defendant went into the chairmaker's shop, seized a rattan chair, and broke it by belabouring the coolies with it. For this little freak he was fined \$5 and ordered to pay \$1.50 compensation.

On Thursday night two chair coolies were settling their differences by belabouring each other in Queen's Road Central, opposite the Hongkong Hotel. A crowd surrounded them. An Indian constable took both into custody. When taken before Mr. Hazeland yesterday one of them said: The second defendant broke my chair, but I did not fight.—The second defendant said: I accidentally knocked against the first defendant's chair, but we did not fight. They were each fined \$3, or 14 days.

On the 13th inst. there was a good muster of the European members of the Hongkong Police Force in the Billiard Room of the Central Police Station for the purpose of bidding farewell to Lance-Sergeant Cameron, who has been invalided home, and making him a presentation. Chief Detective Inspector Hanson acted as chairman, and addressing Lance-Sergeant Cameron said: "I have been asked by your late comrades in the Police Force, who wish to show their appreciation of your kind nature and disposition, on your retirement from the force, to make you a present on their behalf of a purse of sovereigns, a walking stick, and a deck chair, and I do so with very great pleasure. You have been with us for something like three years, and it is a pity you have to sever your connection with the force, because it is not everybody's good fortune to be blessed with the even temperament and good disposition of which you are the possessor. Temperaments differ, and it is one like yourself who brings a very good influence upon the more fiery ones. It does them good to have one like you among them. We were sent into the world for a certain purpose, and I consider that you have brought a very good influence to bear upon us all. Therefore we shall miss you very much, but I hope that in going back to the old country you will regain your health and that before very long you will look back upon the time you have spent in Hongkong with feelings of pleasure. You have made friends here, and I hope you will remember us all as friends. To remind you of us in some way we give you this stick. I will therefore hand you the purse, which contains 38 sovereigns, and express the hope on behalf of myself and your late comrades that you will soon be restored to health" (Hear hear).—The stick is a black ebony one with a silver mount. It bears a monogram and the inscription:—"Presented to William Cameron, by members of the H.K.P., 12th Oct., 1900, as a mark of esteem." The recipient in reply, said: "Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I thank you all very much for your kindness. You have given me more than I deserve. I am sorry to leave you, but I am obliged to do so." Mr. Cameron subsequently went on board the homeward-bound English mail, a good many of his late comrades seeing him off.

At the Magistracy on the 16th inst. a Chinaman was sentenced to a month's hard labour for stealing a jacket at Hok Un, near Hunghom. The jacket was stolen while the occupants of the house were absent a few minutes. They had seen the defendant hanging about the place, and suspected him of the theft. Later on the defendant was arrested with the pawn-ticket relating to the jacket in his possession.

On visiting the steam launch *Kwang Lung* as she was about to start for Han Hoi near Samchun, on the 15th inst., a Chinese constable found one of the passengers in possession of two revolvers and 50 rounds of ammunition, which were wrapped in jackets. He took the man into custody. The offender said that a man had asked him to take the things to the country and had given him ten cents for his trouble.—He was fined \$250, or three months.

On Wednesday afternoon an Indian constable found three coolies fighting in Morrison Street. They were battering one another with all their might and emphasising their blows by shouting at the top of their voices. He drove them away but they came back again and resumed the battle. He accordingly took them into custody. When before Mr. Hazeland yesterday they made the following statements:—No. 1: I did not fight; I was assaulted by the second defendant and his friends. No. 2: I did not fight. The first defendant and his friends knocked away my money. No. 3: I say the same as the second defendant.—Each defendant was fined \$3, or 14 days.

Mrs. McRae, of No. 1, Leighton, Hill Road, appeared at the Magistracy yesterday to charge her servant boy with leaving her service without notice. She said that the defendant came to her in March or April, and left at the end of the latter month without saying anything. On Tuesday she saw him at Mrs. Buller's next door.—The defendant said that on receiving his wages he went home to see his wife. While he was at her house he fell ill and his wife told him to stay with her. He stayed with her two or three months, and when he was better he went to Mrs. Buller's. While there the complainant saw him. She abused him and said she would summon him. When in her service she used to abuse him and call him a—Chinaman—His worship. Did you say that to him?—The complainant: No, your worship; I never use that word.—A fine of \$5, or 14 days, was imposed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Can a juror summoned in a court of law refuse to kiss the Bible? This question has again been raised, this time in Penang. Referring to a refusal in the local assize court there, when the sheriff curtly demanded that a German gentleman should kiss the book, one of the jurors in a letter to the *Gazette* says: "The late Mr. Justice Pelleran held that it was quite sufficient for the jurors to make sure that the book, which they were having in their hands, was really the Bible, by simply opening it, and that kissing was not demanded by the law and was, therefore, not imperative, though usually done. Who is right. The Judge or the sheriff?"

The Pacific Mail liner *China* had an exciting episode on board on her last voyage. Just after leaving San Francisco one of a party of three passengers who had been engaged in that city as superintendents in a gold mine in Corea, about 100 miles north of Chemulpo, and were on their way out, showed signs of insanity, and had to be placed in confinement. It first manifested itself in the form of melancholia, and a close watch was put over him. Later on, he twice entered the room of a lady passenger who was ill. He was then put in confinement and under constant watch. In a day or two he became violent. Once he broke the door down and got out; twice he got away from his guard while taking exercise. At one time he secured one of the knives being polished for the table and on the other occasion he was seized just as he got to the rail preparatory to jumping over. Fortunately, he did no damage to himself or to others, although twice he managed to get on the upper deck among the passengers. The unfortunate gentleman seemed to be an attractive person and of considerable refinement.

The steamer *Cape Clear*, which was advertised in these columns to be sold by public auction at Bangkok on the 29th ult., was knocked down to Mr. William Downie for 74,000. According to the latest accounts there is some difficulty about the delivery of the *Cape Clear*, as the vessel is claimed by Mr. Leonardi.

H.M. cruiser *Archer*, Commander John P. Rolleston, sailed from Sheerness on 7th inst. for Australia to replace her sister cruiser *Mohawk*, Commander Frederick H. P. W. Freeman, which has been temporarily transferred to the China Station. The *Mohawk* will return to England to pay off when affairs in China assume a more peaceful attitude.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes:—Correspondence has been published between the Indian Government and the Bar and Chamber of Commerce at Rangoon as to the appointment of a civilian instead of a barrister as the Chief Judge of the new Chief Court for Lower Burma. I may mention that a very strong impression prevails in official quarters here that the present constitution of the court is only provisional, and that after the practice of the new court has been established on a firm basis, the chief judgeship will, when a vacancy occurs, be given to a barrister judge. The ultimate creation of a High Court for Upper and Lower Burma is very probable.

It is quite possible that Mr. John Roberts, the billiard champion, may visit China at the close of his present Australian tour. He has informed a press correspondent that he will probably return home via Canada, and drop out at the various China and Japan ports. His trip will last two years, and it is the fourth time that he has paid a visit to Australia, the first being in 1876, the second two years later, and the third in 1891. It is remarkable that one of his age—he is in his 53rd year—can retain such keenness of eye and steadiness of hand, coupled with precision and judgment, as to place him so far in advance of all others in a game possessing such variety of combination and nerve as billiards.

Sir Francis Burdett has been appointed extra A.D.C. to Sir West Ridgway, the Governor of Ceylon, and is due to take up his appointment at Colombo about the end of November. Sir Francis is a Lieutenant of the 17th Lancers (Reserve of officers) and received his Commission on the 16th September, 1896. He went out to South Africa at the commencement of the war, and arrived in Colombo by the transport *Dilwara*, on the 8th ult., with a batch of a thousand Boer prisoners brought by that vessel. Sir Francis remained in Colombo for eight or ten days and joined in several games of polo, a branch of sport in which he is particularly at home. He then went to England to settle up his personal affairs before undertaking his new appointment.

Captain Sir Alfred Jephson, R.N., who died on the 12th ult., saw a good deal of active service, and in 1860 was present with the Naval Brigade at the assault and capture of Canton. For these services he wore the China medal with clasp for Canton. His lieutenant's commission was dated 10th December, 1861, and in this grade when in the *Euryalus* he was wounded in the attack on the batteries at Kagosima, Japan, August, 1863. He also received special mention in despatches as lieutenant of a company of small-arm men of the Naval Brigade landed for the assault on the stockades at Shimonosaki, Sept. 4, 1864. Here his war-services as a naval officer ceased, and having been promoted commander, Sept. 18, 1873, he retired with the rank of Captain, May 28, 1889.

At the last meeting of the Singapore Legislative Council a vote of \$100,000 was passed in the Supply Bill for a most important work—the canal to join Singapore River and Keppel Harbour. The Colonial Secretary in moving the first reading of the Bill said that the canal proposed was to be very different from the old Singapore Canal—80 feet wide, and 3 feet of water at the lowest tide, perhaps 6 ft. would be better, but that would increase the cost. The rough estimate was \$600,000, but the canal, if made, would very much shorten the route and make much safer the transit of goods from the wharves to the godowns. No doubt the advisability of constructing such a canal would be very much discussed, but its utility could not be denied, although arguments might be adduced in favour of some other work in lieu of it.

The disabled China Mutual steamer *Yangtze* has been towed safely to Singapore by the Company's vessel *Teenhai*.

The replayed final tie of the Warren Challenge Shield at Singapore on the 9th inst. ended in the 35th Co. R.A. defeating the 12th Co. R.A. by 2 goals to nil.

Orders were issued last month, directing a draft to be selected from the Eastern Division, Royal Garrison Artillery, at Sheerness, for despatch to China.

Sir Edwin Arnold has received from Bangkok a rescript by the King of Siam, confirming his appointment as Grand Officer of the Most Honourable Order of the Crown of Siam.

The Rev. Father Villaume, well known in French Indo-China by his remarkable irrigation works that have made the valley of Phanrang, was drowned there last month. He was carried away in a rapid while constructing a dam.

During the year 1899 205 foreign vessels, of 186,596 tons, entered, and 204 vessels, of 183,025 tons, cleared at Tsingtao. 129 (111 of the subsidised mail line) were German, 41 British, 14 Russian, 11 Japanese, 3 American, 3 Chinese, 2 Norwegian, 1 Danish, 1 Korean. 457 sea-going native junks entered and cleared during the six months.

The China crisis has given a push to business at Pulo Way through the increasing number of men of-war calling there to coal, says the *Penang Gazette*. Provisions are harder to get owing to the island depending upon importation from Penang and Singapore. Thus the Russian vessels at Pulo Way ran so short of tinned milk that they had to turn to Penang. There all the stocks of preserved milk were bought up on Russian account. The coal trade of the island thrives through Portuguese, French, and Russian war-vessels calling.

Notwithstanding the objection raised by the agents of the German Government (who are buying horses in the United States for transportation to China), against official inspection of their transports and animals, the Treasury Department at Washington insists on the usual inspection by the United States' Inspectors of Steam Vessels, in conformity with the requirements of the Passenger Act. The Secretary of the Treasury also calls attention to a recent decision to the effect that persons who go on vessels as attendants on horses are not eligible to be mustered in as members of the crew, for their business on board, namely, the care of the livestock, bears no relation to the safety of the vessel.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	—	—
Amoy	271,994	221,484
Foochow	9,587,610	9,491,174
Canton	—	—
	9,859,604	9,712,658

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	34,496,984	25,363,948

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	—	—
Amoy	10,643,356	6,679,289
Foochow	6,608,634	2,643,067
	17,251,990	9,322,356

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	20,258,003	20,555,065
Kobe	10,593,708	11,782,517
	30,851,709	32,337,582

SILK.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	22,066	45,176
Canton	—	—
Yokohama	4,289	10,150
	26,355	55,326

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	3,518	5,519
Canton	—	—
Yokohama	5,850	10,790
	9,368	16,318

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 19th October.—No fresh supplies having come forward, there have been no sales. Quotations for Formosa are:—\$96.00 to \$96.50; no sales.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 19th October.—The prices are further advancing, market being brisk. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$7.85 to \$7.90 per cwt.
do. " 2, White.....	7.00 to 7.05 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.25 to 5.30 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.10 to 5.15 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	7.90 to 7.95 "
do. " 1, White.....	7.00 to 7.05 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.20 to 5.25 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.05 to 5.10 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	11.27 to 11.33 "
Shekloong "	10.20 to 10.25 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Malacca*, sailed on the 5th September. For Glasgow:—5 cases black-woodware, 75 cases preserves, 40 cases preserves. For Manchester:—1 box ore. For London:—2,039 bales hemp from Manila, 4 cases cigars from Manila 1,790 pkgs. tea from Amoy, 5,296 boxes tea, 147 boxes tea, 394 rolls mats and matting, 200 cases preserves, 55 pkgs. mat bags, 20 cases bristles, 39 cases Chinaware, 28 cases black-woodware, 10 cases condensed milk, 6 cases M. O. P. shells, 8 cases private effects, 6 cases preserves, 2 bales hemp.

Per steamer *Hector*, sailed on the 20th September. For Liverpool:—324 bales canes, 100 bales mats, 100 cases P. L. Fans, 902 cases ginger. For Manchester:—5 bales waste silk.

Per P. & O. steamer *Shanghai*, sailed on the 21st September. For Glasgow:—375 cases Preserves, 6 cases curios. For Gibraltar:—1 case curios. For London:—998 bales hemp from Manila, 1,148 pkgs. tea from Amoy, 1 case silverware, 3,525 cases tea, 230 bales canes, 57 rolls mats and matting, 74 cases Chinaware, 13 cases woodware, 6 cases copperware, 1 case photocards, 6 cases curios, 3 pkgs. private effects, 225 cases preserves, 25 cases preserves.

Per steamer *Salazie*, sailed on the 24th Sept. For Marseilles:—93 bales raw silk, 100 bales, waste silk, 135 bales pierced cocoons, 8 cases silks, 2 cases private effects, 6 cases Chinaware, 92 pkgs. tea, 12 bales tea mats. For Lyons:—326 bales raw silk. For London:—70 bales raw silk.

Per P. & O. steamer *Clyde*, sailed on the 29th September. For London:—34 bales raw silk, 6 cases silk, 20 cases bristles, 3 cases private effects, 20 rolls mats. For Marseilles:—113 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk, 190 bales pierced cocoons. For Lyons:—318 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *Indus*, sailed on the 8th October. For Marseilles:—200 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk, 30 bales pierced cocoons, 7 cases silks, 3,011 pkgs. tea, 2 pkgs. rattan, 8 cases blackwoodware. For Milan:—10 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—190 bales raw silk. For London:—10 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *Alcinous*, sailed on the 3rd Oct. For London:—3,878 boxes—77,238 lbs. scented caper tea, 92 boxes—1,932 lbs. Congou, 500 half chests from Foochow, 12 half chests from Amoy, 6,405 bales hemp, 835 cases preserves, 2,765 cases preserves, 22 cases bristles, 20 cases aniseed oil, 19 cases Chinaware, 19 cases cigars, 20 pkgs. sundries. For Liverpool:—2,918 bales hemp. For London opt. Manchester:—205 bales waste silk. For London opt. Glasgow:—250 cases ginger. For London opt. Hamburg:—180 bales canes. For Rotterdam opt. Amsterdam:—50 bales cassia.

Per American steamer *Manuel Laguno*. For New York:—2 cases Chinaware, 8 pkgs. rattan chairs, 31 cases blackwoodware, 100 cases soy, 338 bales rattancore, 1,451 cases fans, 9,650 bales cassia, 13,236 rolls matting.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 19th October.—The further decline in prices have been reported, market being weak. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.90 to 2.95
" Round, Good quality	3.20 to 3.25
" Long	3.35 to 3.40
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	3.05 to 3.10
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	3.40 to 3.45
" White	4.15 to 4.20
" Fine Cargo	4.30 to 4.35

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 19th October.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*.—50 bales No. 6 at \$76, 50 bales No. 8 at \$84, 800 bales No. 10 at \$87 to \$90, 550 bales No. 12 at \$89 to \$94, 250 bales No. 16 at \$95 to \$102.50, 850 bales No. 20 at \$95 to \$110.

COTTON YARN—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$78.00 to \$109.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.25 to 2.35
7 lbs.	2.55 to 2.65
8.4 lbs.	3.10 to 3.35
9 to 10 lbs.	3.30 to 4.75
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.65 to 2.85
58 to 60 "	3.40 to 4.20
64 to 66 "	4.50 to 5.55
Fine	5.40 to 8.10
Book-folds.	4.60 to 6.50
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.80 to 1.65
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.85 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 ") "	2.15 to 2.40
6lbs. (32 ") Mexa.	2.05 to 2.30
7lbs. (32 ") "	2.65 to 3.05
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.00 to 3.80
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.40 to 7.30

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs }	1.55 to 5.00
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Brocades—Dyed

	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 to 0.17
Vilvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.20 to 0.22½

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk

0.36 to 2.50

WOOLENS—

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.80 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 2.50
	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet.....	6.40 to 10.00
Assorted.....	6.50 to 10.10
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.50 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches }	8.00 to 20.00
Assorted }	
Orleans—Plain	8.50 to 10.00

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.

4.00 to 18.00

METALS—

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.80 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	4.80 to —
Swedish Bar	7.00 to —
Small Round Rod	5.25 to —
Hoop 4 to 11½ in.	5.50 to —
Wire 5/25	7.50 to —
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —

Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	10.85	to	—
Australian	10.85	to	—
Yellow Metal—Muntz	14/20 oz.	39.00	to
Vivian's	14/20 oz.	39.00	to
Elliot's	14/20 oz.	39.00	to
Composition Nails	65.00	to	—
Japan Copper, Slabs	42.00	to	—
Tin	73.00	to	—
per box.			
Tip-Plates	7.25	to	—
per cwt. case			
Steel $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$	6.75	to	—
SUNDRIES—			
per picul			
Quicksilver	161.00	to	—
per box			
Window Glass	5.70	to	—
per 10-gal. case			
Kerosene Oil	2.50	to	—

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 19th October.—The market has ruled steady with a fair business and no special features to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been placed in small lots at 314 per cent. premium, closing with sellers. The London rate has advanced to £57. 5s. 0d. Nationals have again changed hands at \$26 and are in request at that rate.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are on offer at \$245 but without sales. Cantons could be placed at quotation (\$123), but none are obtainable. Northern Insurances and Straits continue neglected.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been placed at \$295, closing with sellers at that rate. Chinas have advanced to \$80 with sales, but close with sellers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been dealt in to some extent at \$32 and \$32½, closing steady at latter rate. Indos are enquired for at \$87 after small sales at \$86. Douglasses have been on offer during the week at \$41 without inducing sales. China Manilas remain unchanged and China Mutuels have changed hands at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars after a small sale at \$105 have improved to \$107. Luzons continue neglected and without business.

MINING.—The market under this heading has ruled very dull, with but little business. A few Raubs have changed hands at \$56. Jelebus at \$8 and \$8½. Punjoms at \$3, and a small lot of Caledonians at \$0.10.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been on offer during the week at 545 per cent. prem. with small sales; a small sale at 562 per cent. prem. for December is reported. Kowloon Wharves have ruled quieter with sellers at \$84 and finally at \$83, and only small sales at \$84 have been made. Wanchais unchanged, but in request.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have further improved to \$185, after sales at \$184 and \$184½. Market closes steady with probable buyers at \$185. For January sales have been effected at \$192. Hotels remain dull and neglected at the reduced rate of \$118. West Points have been placed at \$51, closing with sellers. Humphreys have been negotiated to a large extent at \$11, \$11½, and \$11½, closing firm at the latter rate.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs have been placed at \$9 and close with a small demand at that rate. In the absence of local business quotations for the Northern Mills are taken from the last Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Watsons have been dealt in to a fair extent at \$16. Green Islands at \$19 and \$19½, and Electrics at \$10½. Ices are enquired for at the increased rate of \$170 but none seem procurable. China Providents have changed hands at \$9.95 and \$10, and Dairy Farms at \$8½.

MEMOS.—China Traders yearly meeting on 23rd instant. Hongkong Electrics second call of \$3 on new issue payable 1st proximo. Tenders are invited for 4,104 unissued shares up to 20th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	[\$517½, sellers 314 p. ct. prem. = London, £57.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s. 0d.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$28, sales & buys.
B. Shares	£8	\$28, sellers
Foun. Shares	£8	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$14.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$10, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$107, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 375.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Hongkong	\$100	\$9, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$8½, sales
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$52, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$19, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$118, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$104, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$2, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$170.
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$118, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$170, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$83, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$170, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$45 p. ct. prem. = \$806½, sales & sels.
China Fire	\$20	\$123, ex d., buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$80, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$56, sellers
North-China	\$25	\$295, sales & sellers
Straits	\$20	Tls. 164, buyers
Union	\$50	\$1.
Yangtze	\$60	\$245, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$119, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$185, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$11½, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$25½.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$51, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$35, buyers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$3	\$250, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	10 c., sales & sellers
Jelebu	\$5	40 cents
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	\$8½, sellers
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	10 cents, sellers
Do. B.	\$4½	\$24, sellers
Punjom	\$8	\$1.60, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$3, sellers
Raubs	16a. 10d.	75 cts., sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$64	\$56, sales
Oriente Hotel Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$20½, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$53.
China Mutual Pref.	£10	\$65, sellers
China Ordinary	£10	\$28, sellers
Do.	£5	\$104, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$104, buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$25, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$41, sales & sellers
Shell Transport and		\$32½, buyers
Trading Co.	£100	\$87, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	£3 5s.
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$18, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$4½, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$8½.
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37½	\$20.
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$61, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$10, sales & sellers
Universal Trading	\$5	\$18, sales & sellers
Co., Ltd.		\$5½, buyers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra, Limited.	\$500	\$5½, buyers
La Commercial, Ltd.	\$500	\$1,500.
Hensiana, Limited.	\$100	\$1,000.
La Favorita, Ltd.	\$500	\$110.
		\$630.

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 19th October.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	2/0½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/1½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.614
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.67

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	2.13
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	50½
Credits, 60 days' sight	51½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	156
Bank, on demand	156½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	158
Bank, on demand	156½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	1½ p.c. dis.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	1 p.c. pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	1½ p.c. pm.
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	124½
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ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	2 p.c. pm.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	1½ p.c. pm.
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand	60
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	£.60
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	50.50
BAR SILVER, per oz.	29½

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

October—

ARRIVALS.

13, Amoy, German str., from Karatau.
13, Quarta, German str., from Sourabaya.
13, Dalhousie, British transport, from Taku.
13, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
13, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
13, Elm Branch, British str., from K'notzu.
13, Fushun, British str., from Canton.
14, Wosang, British str., from Canton.
14, Tiger, German gunboat, from Canton.
14, Elektra, Austrian transport, from Odessa.
14, Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
14, Marquis Bacquehem, Aust. str., from Kobe.
14, Patroclus, British str., from Shanghai.
14, Dundee, British ship, from New York.
15, Kwangleo, British str., from Shanghai.
15, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
15, Eastern, British str., from Sydney.
15, Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.
15, Kutsang, British str., from Java.
15, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
15, Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
15, Jeanara, British str., from Barry.
15, Ashraf, British transport, from Shanghai.
15, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
15, Taishun, Amr. str., from Haiphong.
15, Sachsen, German str., from Yokohama.
16, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
16, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
16, Monmouthshire, Brit. str., from Portland.
16, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
16, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
16, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Daling.
17, Chingtu, British str., from Moji.
17, Serbia, German str., from Japan.
17, Glenfalloch, British str., from Straits.
17, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
17, Hsin Chi, British str., from Canton.
17, Marietta, Amr. gunboat, from Swatow.
17, Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.
17, Glenloch, British str., from Singapore.
17, Telemachus, British str., from Java.
17, Bayern, German str., from Bremen.
18, Hain Fung, British str., from Canton.
18, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Bengal (str.), Glengyle (str.), Tamba Maru (str.), Malta (str.), Candia (str.), Idomenus (str.), Afas (str.), Agamemnon (str.), Sanuki Maru (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Tamba Maru (str.), Laos (str.), Malta (str.), Candia (str.), Sanuki Maru (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Oldenburg (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Savaria (str.), Sarnia (str.), Bamberg (str.), Ambria (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Brasmar (str.), Idemaru Maru (str.).

18. Guthrie, British str., from Kobe.
 18. Tamba Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 18. Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 18. Singan, British str., from Canton.
 18. Hui, French str., from Haiphong.
 18. Hallos, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 19. Don Juan de Austria, Amr. g.-bt., from Canton.
 19. Candia, British str., from Foochow.
 19. Astoria, German str., from Amoy.
 19. Silesia, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 19. Elise, German str., from Manila.
 19. Sallberg, German str., from Manila.
 19. Glengarry, British str., from Moji.
 19. Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 19. Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 19. Hailong, British str., from Haiphong.
 19. Hoihow, British str., from Newchwang.

October—DEPARTURES.

13. Bengal, British str., for Europe.
 13. China, American str., for San Francisco.
 13. Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Swatow.
 13. Agamemnon, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. Benclutha, British str., for Amoy.
 13. Adato, British str., for Labuan.
 13. Hailong, British str., for Haiphong.
 13. Singan, British str., for Canton.
 13. Albion, British str., for Bangkok.
 13. Etruria, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. Onsang, British str., for Singapore.
 13. Peluse, British str., for Amoy.
 13. Chusan, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. Pentakota, British trspt., for Taku.
 14. Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 14. Phra Nang, British str., for Bangkok.
 14. Decima, German str., for Swatow.
 14. Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 14. Tantalus, British str., for Shanghai.
 14. Independent, German str., for Saigon.
 14. Amoy, German str., for Manila.
 14. Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 15. Asahi, Japanese battleship, for Japan.
 15. Kweiyang, British str., for Amoy.
 15. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 15. Kwanglee, British str., for Canton.
 16. Tiger, German gunboat, for Shanghai.
 16. Athesia, German str., for Yokohama.
 16. Hermes, Norw. str., for Hongay.
 16. Wosang, British str., for Taiwanfoo.
 16. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 16. Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 16. Victoria, Amr. str., for Tacoma.
 16. Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 16. Patroclus, British str., for London.
 16. Ashraf, British transport, for Bombay.
 16. Eastern, British str., for Shanghai.
 17. Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
 17. China, German str., for Saigon.
 17. Taicheong, German str., for Hongay.
 17. Legaspi, Amr. str., for Manila.
 17. Mongkut, German str., for Bangkok.
 17. Marietta, Amr. gunboat, for Canton.
 17. Obi, British str., for Moji.
 17. Yorihome Maru, Jap. str., for Karatsu.
 18. Fushun, British str., for Shanghai.
 18. Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 18. Taishun, Amr. str., for Haiphong.
 18. Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 18. Elm Branch, British str., for K'chinotzu.
 18. Deuteros, German str., for Amoy.
 18. Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 18. Singan, British str., for Shanghai.
 18. Hsin Chi, British str., for Shanghai.
 18. Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 18. Choysang, British str., for Canton.
 18. Bayern, German str., for Shanghai.
 19. M. Bacquehem, Austrian str., for Trieste.
 19. J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 19. Hating, French str., for Hoihow.
 19. Tamba Maru, Jap. str., for Marseilles.
 19. Canton, British str., for Swatow.
 19. Lyesmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 19. Mohawk, British cruiser, for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Mausang*, from Sandakan, Mr. Frost.
 Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong, from London, Col. S. O. Crookenden, Fleet Paymaster Dunbar, Engr. H. E. Rock, Lieuts. A. H. Tremayne, E. B. Keddie, A. B. Palmer and H. G. B. Dewar, Sub-Lieut. Cadman, Gunner J. E. Cock, Asst. Engr. C. B. Rock, Corpl. H. Ching, Messrs. W. W. Clark, Spurge and Sapper C. Palmer; from Marseilles, Lieut. H. G. Sherbrooke; from Gibraltar, Mr. J. A. M. Souza Machado; from Brindisi, Lieut.-Col. G. A. Hughes; from Bombay, Mr. T. Masaki, Major McGill, Capt. Brog-

den, Asst.-Surgeons Pais, Gardiner, Hewins and Alderton, Store-keeper Sayanna, Ambulance Agent Anont Narrian, Accountant Mahardo, Serpts. Hole, Gariner, Browney, Ptes. Hall, Ratcliffe, Suttinby and Endis; from Singapore, Messrs. C. W. Darbishire, R. Gutierrez and Sirdar Khan; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. F. E. Hammond; from London, Master Bishop; from Penang, Mr. F. Duberley and Miss Duberley; for Shanghai, from Brindisi, Mr. J. M. Dickinson; from Marseilles, Mr. J. G. Butler.

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Per *Taisang*, from Shanghai, for Canton, Mrs. Valentine and child; for Hongkong, Messrs. Nicholson and Downing; from Swatow, H.B.M. Consul R. Hurst.

Per *Idzumi Maru*, from Seattle, &c., Messrs. Walter H. Ferguson and K. Matsunaga.

Per *Eastern*, from Sydney, &c., Miss Woodford, Miss A. C. Keyes, Miss Robinson, Mr. A. G. Wilson, Mr. F. Matson, Mrs. J. R. MacKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Cooke, Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Buck, Miss Wells, Mr. and Mrs. Chilvers and infant, Mr. M. Webb-Bowen, Mr. Allison and Mr. Ward.

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Per *Monmouthshire*, from Portland (Oregon), Mrs. and Miss Kennedy, Mrs. and Master Case, Messrs. Head and Ellis.

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Per *Tamba Maru*, from Yokohama, &c., for Hongkong, Messrs. Y. Otsuki and N. Hirai; for Singapore, Miss Howe and Mrs. Macmillan; for Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. Ermikiel and Mr. Burr; for Marseilles, Mr. T. Tokita, Dr. Hasegawa, Dr. and Mrs. Butler.

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for Kobe, Mr. Otto Wirth; for Yokohama, Messrs. E. Binder, Friedr. Noltmann and E. L. van Nierop.

DEPARTED.

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Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Melbourne, for Fusan, Rev. and Mrs. Engel and three children; for Yokohama, Mrs. C. Hearne and three children, Master Hearne, Messrs. H. O. Elkington, E. Elzas, C. H. Reading, H. Lane, M. Makamura and Y. Noguchi; from Hongkong, for Japan, Messrs. A. G. Wilson, J. Furness, Miss Orwa and infant, Mr. Matubora, Mrs. Yamaguchi and child, Mr. K. Tanaka, Mrs. Kawaguchi, Messrs. Takishita and J. Hamashima.

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